

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

As Engrossed: S4/22/26

**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 10

5 By: Joint Budget Committee  
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**For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES  
10 AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
11 - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR  
12 ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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**Subtitle**

15 AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE -  
16 DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES  
17 APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL  
18 YEAR.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
25 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services for the 2026-2027  
26 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.  
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Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
32	(1) LAT06C	ATTORNEY IV	1	GRADE SPC09
33	(2) LAT05P	ATTORNEY III	2	GRADE SPC08
34	(3) FAC11C	DIVISION FISCAL ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE SPC07
35	(4) FAC04C	ACCOUNTING MANAGER	1	GRADE SPC06
36	(5) FAC10C	CONTROLLER	1	GRADE SPC06



1	(6)	FIN03P FINANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC06
2	(7)	FAC06C ASSISTANT CONTROLLER	3	GRADE SPC05
3	(8)	LAT04P ATTORNEY II	2	GRADE SPC05
4	(9)	FAC02P ACCOUNTANT II	1	GRADE SPC02
5	(10)	FAC01P ACCOUNTANT I	5	GRADE SPC01
6	(11)	FAU03P AUDITOR I	1	GRADE SPC01
7	(12)	FFS01C FISCAL SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SGS10
8	(13)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
9	(14)	PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
10	(15)	PPR05P PROCUREMENT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
11	(16)	FBU01P BUDGET ANALYST	4	GRADE SGS07
12	(17)	PCO01P COMMERCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS07
13	(18)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS07
14	(19)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SGS07
15	(20)	PPR02P PROCUREMENT COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SGS07
16	(21)	ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS06
17	(22)	PCO03P COMMERCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS06
18	(23)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS06
19	(24)	FGM04P GRANTS SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS06
20	(25)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06
21	(26)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS05
22	(27)	FBU03P BUDGET SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS05
23	(28)	FGM02P GRANTS COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS05
24	(29)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	4	GRADE SGS05
25	(30)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	4	GRADE SGS05
26	(31)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SGS04
27	(32)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	20	GRADE SGS04
28	(33)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
29	(34)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	4	GRADE SGS04
30	(35)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	1	GRADE SGS03
31	(36)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS02
32	(37)	MRE02P REHABILITATION COORDINATOR	1	GRADE MED02
33	(38)	IIE04C IT SECURITY EXPERT	1	GRADE IST10
34	(39)	IIP03P IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IST10
35	(40)	IAS03P APPLICATIONS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IST09
36	(41)	IAS05P APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER II	5	GRADE IST08

1	(42) IAS01P APPLICATIONS ANALYST I	2	GRADE IST07
2	(43) IDMO2P DATABASE ANALYST	1	GRADE IST07
3	(44) IAS04P APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER I	6	GRADE IST06
4	(45) IIE02P IT SECURITY ANALYST I	3	GRADE IST06
5	(46) IUS02P USER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE IST05
6	(47) IUS01P USER SUPPORT ANALYST	3	GRADE IST04
7	(48) IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	10	GRADE IST02
8	(49) IAS07C STATE APPLICATIONS ADMINISTRATOR	<u>3</u>	GRADE IST11
9	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	136	

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11 SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated,  
 12 to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the paying account as  
 13 determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services  
 14 and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce  
 15 Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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17	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
19	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$8,165,436
20	(02) EXTRA HELP	200,000
21	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	3,042,896
22	(04) OVERTIME	100,000
23	(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
24	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	4,200,000
25	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	50,000
26	(C) PROF. FEES	250,000
27	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	250,000
28	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
29	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$16,258,332</u>

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31 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - TRUST FUND. There is hereby  
 32 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division  
 33 of Workforce Services Trust Fund, for personal services and operating  
 34 expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -  
 35 Operations - Trust Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$29,196,349
(02) EXTRA HELP	1,000,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	11,648,479
(04) OVERTIME	360,000
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	19,335,741
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	396,990
(C) PROF. FEES	1,672,462
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$63,610,021</u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND EXPENSES - CASH.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for unemployment benefit payments and other expenses including disaster relief payments, training allowances, payments to participant contractors and Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund loan repayments by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Unemployment Benefits and Expenses - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) DISASTER RELIEF PAYMENTS	\$350,000
(02) FEDERALLY PAID BENEFITS PAYMENTS	200,000,000
(03) U I BENEFITS - REIMBURSABLE EMPLOYERS	1,000,000
(04) U I BENEFITS - TAXABLE EMPLOYERS	500,000,000
(05) TRAINING ALLOWANCES	500,000
(06) PAYMENTS TO PART CONTRACTORS	150,000
(07) UI ADVANCE REPAYMENT	<u>1</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$702,000,001</u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS. There is hereby

1 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division  
 2 of Workforce Services Special Fund, for payment of the annual assessment to  
 3 maintain voting member rights in the National Association of Workforce  
 4 Agencies by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -  
 5 Annual Assessments for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

7 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
8 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
9 (01) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT	<u>\$26,000</u>

11 SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - EXCESS UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS AND EXPENSES.

12 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 13 from the Division of Workforce Services Special Fund, for construction,  
 14 personal services and matching, maintenance and general operating expenses  
 15 for the Administration Building and all other agency owned buildings,  
 16 building and land acquisition, rent of buildings, and payment of unemployment  
 17 benefits and expenses incurred by the Department of Commerce - Division of  
 18 Workforce Services in the administration of the Division of Workforce  
 19 Services Law, the Arkansas Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act and the  
 20 Arkansas Works Act of 2016, or their successor programs and any other  
 21 programs transferred under the direction and supervision of the Division of  
 22 Workforce Services, when such expenses exceed funds available from other  
 23 sources by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -  
 24 Excess Unemployment Benefits and Expenses for the fiscal year ending June 30,  
 25 2027, the following:

27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
29 (01) CONSTRUCTION	\$0
30 (02) RENT OF BUILDINGS	0
31 (03) PAYMENT/EXPENSES	<u>10,000,000</u>
32 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

34 SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT.

35 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 36 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the

1 State, for grant payments of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act by  
2 the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Workforce  
3 Innovation and Opportunity Act for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
4 following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 NO.	<u>2026-2027</u>
8 (01) WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY	
9 ACT PAYMENTS	<u>\$30,000,000</u>

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11 SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - U I TRUST FUND INTEREST/UNEMPLOYMENT

12 INSURANCE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to  
13 be payable from the Employment Security Advance Interest Trust Fund, for  
14 paying interest incurred by the state on advances from the Federal  
15 Unemployment Trust Fund, making refunds of advance interest taxes or interest  
16 and penalty payments which were erroneously paid, and returning moneys to the  
17 Unemployment Compensation Fund Clearing Account which were incorrectly  
18 identified and erroneously transferred, if needed by the Department of  
19 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - U I Trust Fund  
20 Interest/Unemployment Insurance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
21 following:

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23 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
24 NO.	<u>2026-2027</u>
25 (01) U I TRUST FUND INTEREST	\$3,000,000
26 (02) LOAN INTEREST	<u>1</u>
27 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$3,000,001</u>

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29 SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - REED ACT FUNDS. There is hereby  
30 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash  
31 funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for construction, improvement of  
32 buildings, rent and lease costs, acquisition of data processing equipment,  
33 acquisition of land, payment of salaries and related benefits, maintenance  
34 and general operation and for the payment of unemployment insurance benefits  
35 or as prescribed by the Social Security Act by the Department of Commerce -  
36 Division of Workforce Services - Reed Act Funds for the fiscal year ending

1 June 30, 2027, the following:

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3	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
5	(01) REED ACT FUNDS	<u>\$1,000,000</u>

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7 SECTION 10. REGULAR SALARIES - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES -  
 8 REEMPLOYMENT. There is hereby established for the Department of Commerce -  
 9 Division of Workforce Services - Reemployment for the 2026-2027 fiscal year,  
 10 the following maximum number of regular employees.

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12		Maximum Annual
13		Salary Rate
14	Item Class	Fiscal Year
15	<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
		Maximum
		No. of
		Employees
16	(1) EEX55A WORKFORCE DIRECTOR	1 GRADE SPC10
17	(2) LAT02C APPEALS TRIBUNAL CHAIRMAN	1 GRADE SPC10
18	(3) FAC04C ACCOUNTING MANAGER	1 GRADE SPC06
19	(4) PCO02C COMMERCE PROGRAM MANAGER	4 GRADE SPC05
20	(5) LAT04P ATTORNEY II	7 GRADE SPC05
21	(6) FAC05P ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1 GRADE SPC04
22	(7) FAU04P AUDITOR II	2 GRADE SPC02
23	(8) FAC01P ACCOUNTANT I	1 GRADE SPC01
24	(9) FAU03P AUDITOR I	12 GRADE SPC01
25	(10) PQA02C QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	1 GRADE SGS09
26	(11) PCA03P CLAIMS SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1 GRADE SGS08
27	(12) PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	19 GRADE SGS08
28	(13) PCO01P COMMERCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	5 GRADE SGS07
29	(14) ILS02I HEARING OFFICER	10 GRADE SGS06
30	(15) PCR03P CLAIMS REVIEW SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7 GRADE SGS06
31	(16) PCO03P COMMERCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	22 GRADE SGS06
32	(17) FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	2 GRADE SGS06
33	(18) PPE03P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST II	2 GRADE SGS06
34	(19) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	19 GRADE SGS05
35	(20) PCR01P CLAIMS REVIEW ANALYST	8 GRADE SGS05
36	(21) IIV03P INVESTIGATOR II	12 GRADE SGS05

1	(22)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	118	GRADE SGS05
2	(23)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	5	GRADE SGS04
3	(24)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	11	GRADE SGS04
4	(25)	PCO05P TAX SPECIALIST	29	GRADE SGS04
5	(26)	PCR02P CLAIMS REVIEW SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS03
6	(27)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	<u>21</u>	GRADE SGS02
7		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	325	

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9 SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - REEMPLOYMENT - FEDERAL. There is hereby  
 10 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the federal  
 11 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal  
 12 services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of  
 13 Workforce Services - Reemployment - Federal for the fiscal year ending June  
 14 30, 2027, the following:

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16	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
17	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
18	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$10,050,500
19	(02) EXTRA HELP	500,000
20	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	4,685,817
21	(04) OVERTIME	260,000
22	(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
23	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	5,000,000
24	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	75,000
25	(C) PROF. FEES	775,000
26	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
27	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
28	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$21,346,317</u>

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30 SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - NEW HIRE REGISTRY. There is hereby  
 31 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the paying  
 32 account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal  
 33 services, maintenance and general operations by the Department of Commerce -  
 34 Division of Workforce Services - New Hire Registry for the fiscal year ending  
 35 June 30, 2027, the following:

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1	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
2	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>

3	(01) NEW HIRE REGISTRY-PERSONAL SERVICES,	
4	MAINTENANCE & GENERAL OPERATIONS	<u>\$250,000</u>

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6           SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES - TRAINING

7 TRUST FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to

8 be payable from the Division of Workforce Services Training Trust Fund, for

9 personal services, operating expenses, and grants for the Worker Training

10 Program of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -

11 Training Trust Fund for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

12	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>

14	(01) PERSONAL SERVICES, OPERATING EXPENSES	
15	AND GRANTS	<u>\$2,500,000</u>

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18           SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES -

19 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to

20 the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Workforce

21 Services Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund, for personal services

22 and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce

23 Services - Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund for the fiscal year

24 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

25	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
26	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>

27	(01) ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	<u>\$6,000,000</u>
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30           SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES -

31 UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE MODERNIZATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the

32 Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Workforce Services

33 Unemployment Insurance Administration Fund, for personal services and

34 operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce

35 Services - Unemployment Insurance Modernization for the fiscal year ending

36 June 30, 2027, the following:

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<i>ITEM</i>		<i>FISCAL YEAR</i>
<u>NO.</u>		<u>2026-2027</u>
(01)	UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE MODERNIZATION	<u>\$10,000,000</u>

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. 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 Payments of the Trade Adjustment Assistance Program by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Trade Adjustment Assistance Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

<i>ITEM</i>		<i>FISCAL YEAR</i>
<u>NO.</u>		<u>2026-2027</u>
(01)	TAA SUPPORTIVE SERVICES	\$200,000
(02)	TAA VENDOR PAYMENTS	<u>1,000,000</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,200,000</u>

SECTION 17. REGULAR SALARIES - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES - ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas Workforce Connections for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

		Maximum	Maximum Annual
		No. of	Salary Rate
		Employees	Fiscal Year
<u>No.</u>	<u>Code Title</u>		<u>2026-2027</u>
(1)	EEX56A WORKFORCE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE EXE02
(2)	PPE14C WORKFORCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC08
(3)	PWD04P WORKFORCE DEVELOP SUPERVISOR/EXP	1	GRADE SPC06
(4)	PCO02C COMMERCE PROGRAM MANAGER	3	GRADE SPC05
(5)	PWD02P WORKFORCE DEVELOP PROJECT CONSULT	1	GRADE SPC05
(6)	PWD01P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SPC03
(7)	PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7	GRADE SGS08

1	(8)	PCO01P COMMERCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	12	GRADE SGS07
2	(9)	PPE01P FIELD OFFICE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	14	GRADE SGS07
3	(10)	PCO03P COMMERCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	23	GRADE SGS06
4	(11)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS06
5	(12)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6	GRADE SGS05
6	(13)	FGM02P GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS05
7	(14)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	59	GRADE SGS05
8	(15)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
9	(16)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS02
10	(17)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS07
11		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	137	

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13 SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WORKFORCE CONNECTIONS. There is  
 14 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 15 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 16 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce -  
 17 Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas Workforce Connections for the  
 18 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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20	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
21	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
22	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$2,000,000
23	(02) EXTRA HELP	25,000
24	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	789,450
25	(04) OVERTIME	10,000
26	(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
27	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	2,310,000
28	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	50,000
29	(C) PROF. FEES	1,000,000
30	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
31	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
32	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,384,450</u></u>

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34 SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - WAGNER PEYSER - FEDERAL. There is hereby  
 35 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the federal  
 36 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal

1 services and operating expenses by the Department of Commerce - Division of  
 2 Workforce Services - Wagner Peysler - Federal for the fiscal year ending June  
 3 30, 2027, the following:

4	5 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
6	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
7	(01) WAGNER PEYSER - FEDERAL	<u>\$7,000,000</u>

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 9 SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - JOBS FOR VETERANS - FEDERAL. There is  
 10 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 11 federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 12 personal services and operating expenses by the Department of Commerce -  
 13 Division of Workforce Services - Jobs for Veterans - Federal for the fiscal  
 14 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

15	16 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
17	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
18	(01) JOBS FOR VETERANS - FEDERAL	<u>\$1,750,000</u>

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 20 SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - FOREIGN LABOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM -  
 21 FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be  
 22 payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
 23 the State, for personal services and operating expenses by the Department of  
 24 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Foreign Labor Certification  
 25 Program - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

26	27 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
29	(01) FOREIGN LABOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM	<u>\$450,000</u>

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 31 SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT - FEDERAL.  
 32 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 33 from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the  
 34 State, for personal services and operating expenses by the Department of  
 35 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Work Opportunity Tax Credit -  
 36 Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT PROGRAM	<u>\$450,000</u>

SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - FEDERAL. 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 by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Trade Adjustment Assistance Program - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM - FEDERAL	<u>\$350,000</u>

SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - REIMAGINE - FEDERAL. 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 by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Reimagine - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REIMAGINE PROGRAM	<u>\$600,000</u>

SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - WORKFORCE INNOVATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT - OPERATIONS. 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 by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:



1	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,000
2	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
3	(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
4	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
5	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
6	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$638,550</u></u>

7

8 SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK -

9 STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be

10 payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of

11 the State, for grants by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce

12 Services - Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - State for the fiscal

13 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

15	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
16	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
17	(01) AR MANUFACTURING EXT NETWORK	<u><u>\$257,182</u></u>

18

19 SECTION 29. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK -

20 FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be

21 payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of

22 the State, for personal services, operating expenses, grants and aid, and

23 field services by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services

24 - Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - Federal for the fiscal year

25 ending June 30, 2027, the following:

27	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
28	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
29	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$764,198
30	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	252,048
31	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
32	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	269,550
33	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
34	(C) PROF. FEES	0
35	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
36	(E) DATA PROC.	0

1	(04) FIELD SERVICES	<u>800,000</u>
2	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,085,796</u></u>

3

4 SECTION 30. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION NETWORK -

5 CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be

6 payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by

7 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services, operating

8 expenses, and grants and aid by the Department of Commerce - Division of

9 Workforce Services - Arkansas Manufacturing Extension Network - Cash for the

10 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

11	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
12		
13	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
14	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$345,963
15	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	117,821
16	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
17	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	543,200
18	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	67,360
19	(C) PROF. FEES	75,000
20	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
21	(E) DATA PROC.	0
22	(04) AR MANUFACTURING NETWORK/TECHNOLOGY	
23	TRANSFER ASSISTANCE/OTHER GRANTS & AID	<u>13,270</u>
24	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,162,614</u></u>

25

26 SECTION 31. APPROPRIATION - SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION AND INTELLIGENCE

27 NETWORK - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of

28 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services, to be payable from the federal

29 funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal

30 services and operating expenses to support the creation of a National Supply

31 Chain Optimization and Intelligence Network (S-COIN) of the Department of

32 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services for the fiscal year ending June 30,

33 2027, the following:

34	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
35		
36	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>

1 (01) SUPPLY CHAIN OPTIMIZATION AND  
 2 INTELLIGENCE NETWORK \$400,000

3  
 4 SECTION 32. REGULAR SALARIES - OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT. There is  
 5 hereby established for the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce  
 6 Services - Office of Skills Development for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the  
 7 following maximum number of regular employees.

Item	Class	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
13	(1) PPE14C WORKFORCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC08
14	(2) PWD02P WORKFORCE DEVELOP PROJECT CONSULT	1	GRADE SPC05
15	(3) PWD01P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	3	GRADE SPC03
16	(4) FAU04P AUDITOR II	1	GRADE SPC02
17	(5) PWD03P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST	9	GRADE SPC01
18	(6) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
19	(7) FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS04
20	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	17	

21  
 22 SECTION 33. APPROPRIATION - OFFICE OF SKILLS DEVELOPMENT. There is  
 23 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 24 Skills Development Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, grants  
 25 and expenses of the Apprenticeship and Industry Training programs by the  
 26 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Office of Skills  
 27 Development for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
31 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$870,966
32 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	290,541
33 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
34 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	353,000
35 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	35,000
36 (C) PROF. FEES	50,000

1	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
2	(E) DATA PROC.	0
3	(04) WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	8,000,000
4	(05) INDUSTRY TRAINING PROGRAM	15,000,000
5	(06) APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM	<u>1,611,456</u>
6	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$26,210,963</u></u>

7

## 8 SECTION 34. APPROPRIATION - CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CRAFT TRAINING

9 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be  
 10 payable from the Arkansas Construction Industry Craft Training Trust Fund,  
 11 for personal services, operating expenses and grants by the Department of  
 12 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Construction Industry Craft  
 13 Training Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

14

15	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
16	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
17	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$54,061
18	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	20,338
19	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
20	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	32,000
21	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,000
22	(C) PROF. FEES	0
23	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
24	(E) DATA PROC.	0
25	(04) GRANTS TO CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY CRAFT	<u>800,000</u>
26	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$916,399</u></u>

27

28 SECTION 35. APPROPRIATION - STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION. There is  
 29 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 30 federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 31 personal services and operating expenses, and to expand opportunities  
 32 relating to apprenticeship programs registered under the National  
 33 Apprenticeship Act through grants, cooperative agreements, contracts and  
 34 other arrangements, with states and other appropriate entities by the  
 35 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - State  
 36 Apprenticeship Expansion for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the

1 following:

2

3	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
4	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
5	(01) STATE APPRENTICESHIP EXPANSION FORMULA	<u>\$1,130,150</u>

6

7 SECTION 36. REGULAR SALARIES - ADULT EDUCATION. There is hereby  
 8 established for the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -  
 9 Adult Education for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number  
 10 of regular employees.

11

12		Maximum Annual
13		Salary Rate
14	Item Class	Fiscal Year
15	<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
16	(1) PPE14C WORKFORCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1 GRADE SPC08
17	(2) PWD04P WORKFORCE DEVELOP SUPERVISOR/EXP	1 GRADE SPC06
18	(3) PWD01P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	1 GRADE SPC03
19	(4) PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	4 GRADE SGS08
20	(5) PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	2 GRADE SGS07
21	(6) PCO01P COMMERCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6 GRADE SGS07
22	(7) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	5 GRADE SGS05
23	(8) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	<u>1</u> GRADE SGS04
24	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	21

25

26 SECTION 37. APPROPRIATION - ADULT EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION -  
 27 OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to  
 28 be payable from the Division of Workforce Services Fund, for personal  
 29 services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of  
 30 Workforce Services - Adult Education Administration - Operations for the  
 31 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

32

33	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
34	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
35	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,792,288
36	(02) EXTRA HELP	7,000

1	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	639,837
2	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
3	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	214,507
4	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	10,500
5	(C) PROF. FEES	0
6	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
7	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
8	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,664,132</u></u>

9

10 SECTION 38. APPROPRIATION - FEDERAL ADULT BASIC EDUCATION. There is  
 11 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 12 federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 13 personal services, operating expenses and grants by the Department of  
 14 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Federal Adult Basic Education for  
 15 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

16

17	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
18	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
19	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$423,968
20	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	146,387
21	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
22	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	132,467
23	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	50,200
24	(C) PROF. FEES	9,000
25	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
26	(E) DATA PROC.	0
27	(04) ADULT BASIC EDUCATION GRANTS	<u>10,369,442</u>
28	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$11,131,464</u></u>

29

30 SECTION 39. APPROPRIATION - GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON ADULT LITERACY.  
 31 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable  
 32 from the Division of Career and Technical Education Public School Fund  
 33 Account, for personal services, operating expenses and grants by the  
 34 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Governor's  
 35 Commission on Adult Literacy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
 36 following:

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ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$28,445
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	9,591
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	52,242
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,005
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) GRANTS TO LITERACY COUNCILS	<u>1,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,096,283</u></u>

SECTION 40. APPROPRIATION - ADULT BASIC AND GENERAL EDUCATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Career and Technical Education Public School Fund Account, for Adult Basic and General Adult Education grants and aid by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Adult Basic and General Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) ADULT BASIC & GENERAL ADULT EDUCATION	<u><u>\$22,770,569</u></u>

SECTION 41. APPROPRIATION - GED TESTING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Career and Technical Education Public School Fund Account, for the cost of individuals taking the General Education Development (GED) test and official practice test of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - GED Testing for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) GED TEST COSTS	<u><u>\$400,000</u></u>

1           SECTION 42. APPROPRIATION - ADULT EDUCATION - CASH. There is hereby  
 2 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund  
 3 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
 4 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 5 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Adult Education - Cash for the  
 6 fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

7

8	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
9	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
10	(01) ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM	<u>\$2,500,000</u>

11

12           SECTION 43. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
 13 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas  
 14 Rehabilitation Services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum  
 15 number of regular employees.

16

			Maximum	Annual
			Maximum	Salary Rate
19	Item	Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
20	No.	Code Title	Employees	2026-2027
21	(1)	PPE14C WORKFORCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC08
22	(2)	LAT05P ATTORNEY III	1	GRADE SPC08
23	(3)	PCO02C COMMERCE PROGRAM MANAGER	3	GRADE SPC05
24	(4)	FAC03P ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SPC03
25	(5)	SCM03P LICENSED CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER	1	GRADE SPC03
26	(6)	PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7	GRADE SGS08
27	(7)	PQA04P QUALITY ASSURANCE SUPERVIS/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS08
28	(8)	ETF07P VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTOR	1	GRADE SGS08
29	(9)	PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1	GRADE SGS07
30	(10)	CPR04I INTERPRETER	1	GRADE SGS07
31	(11)	PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	4	GRADE SGS07
32	(12)	TST05P SKILLED TRADES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
33	(13)	CTR02P TRAINER	1	GRADE SGS07
34	(14)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS06
35	(15)	PQA03P QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06
36	(16)	SSE03P SECURITY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06

1	(17)	ETF05P TEACHER I	1	GRADE	SGS06
2	(18)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	7	GRADE	SGS05
3	(19)	TIW04P INVENTORY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE	SGS05
4	(20)	CME04P MEDIA SPECIALIST	1	GRADE	SGS05
5	(21)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE	SGS05
6	(22)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	14	GRADE	SGS05
7	(23)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	16	GRADE	SGS04
8	(24)	TFM01P FACILITY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE	SGS04
9	(25)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE	SGS04
10	(26)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	2	GRADE	SGS04
11	(27)	TST07P TRADES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE	SGS04
12	(28)	TIW03P INVENTORY SPECIALIST	1	GRADE	SGS03
13	(29)	TFS05P KITCHEN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE	SGS03
14	(30)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	77	GRADE	SGS02
15	(31)	TFS01P COOK	1	GRADE	SGS01
16	(32)	THO01P HOUSEKEEPER	1	GRADE	SGS01
17	(33)	PRC04P RESIDENTIAL CARE SPECIALIST	4	GRADE	SGS01
18	(34)	MPH03P PHYSICIAN	1	GRADE	MED10
19	(35)	MNU04P NURSE PRACTITIONER	1	GRADE	MED08
20	(36)	MPS03P PSYCHOLOGIST I	2	GRADE	MED08
21	(37)	MLM03C OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST	3	GRADE	MED07
22	(38)	MRE01C REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATOR	6	GRADE	MED06
23	(39)	MRE04C REHABILITATION MANAGER	20	GRADE	MED05
24	(40)	MRE06P VOCATIONAL REHAB COUNSELOR	53	GRADE	MED04
25	(41)	MPS02P PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINER	7	GRADE	MED03
26	(42)	MNU01P LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE	1	GRADE	MED02
27	(43)	MRE02P REHABILITATION COORDINATOR	52	GRADE	MED02
28	(44)	IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE	IST02
29	(45)	PWD01P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORD	1	GRADE	SPC03
30	(46)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	2	GRADE	SGS07
31	(47)	PCO03P COMMERCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	1	GRADE	SGS06
32	(48)	IDN02P DATA ANALYST SUPERVIS/EXPERT	<u>1</u>	GRADE	IST09
33		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	316		

34

35 SECTION 44. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department  
 36 of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation

1 Services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-  
 2 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds  
 3 appropriated herein for such purposes: nineteen (19) temporary or part-time  
 4 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
 5 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act  
 6 for the appropriate classification.

7

8 SECTION 45. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES. There is  
 9 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 10 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 11 personal services, operating expenses, and grants and aid and purchase of  
 12 services by the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services -  
 13 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,  
 14 the following:

15

16	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
17	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
18	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$15,437,231
19	(02) EXTRA HELP	252,000
20	(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	6,022,724
21	(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
22	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	7,401,096
23	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	175,000
24	(C) PROF. FEES	844,903
25	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
26	(E) DATA PROC.	0
27	(05) GRANTS AND AID/PURCHASE OF SERVICES	<u>30,000,000</u>
28	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$60,132,954</u>

29

30 SECTION 46. APPROPRIATION - INCREASING CAPABILITIES ACCESS NETWORK -  
 31 FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be  
 32 payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
 33 the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of  
 34 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services  
 35 - Increasing Capabilities Access Network - Federal for the fiscal year ending  
 36 June 30, 2027, the following:

1		
2	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
3	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
4	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$200,707
5	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	77,783
6	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
7	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	400,000
8	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	20,402
9	(C) PROF. FEES	20,000
10	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
11	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
12	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$818,892</u></u>

13

14 SECTION 47. APPROPRIATION - STATEWIDE DISABILITY TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
 15 EQUIPMENT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
 16 Commerce, to be payable from the Telecommunications Equipment Fund, for  
 17 personal services and operating expenses and grants of the Department of  
 18 Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services  
 19 - Statewide Disability Telecommunications Equipment Program for the fiscal  
 20 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

21

22	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
23	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
24	(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$174,003
25	(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	71,648
26	(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
27	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	80,000
28	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	7,000
29	(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
30	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
31	(E) DATA PROC.	0
32	(04) ASSISTIVE EQUIPMENT PURCHASE GRANTS	<u>310,000</u>
33	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$647,651</u></u>

34

35 SECTION 48. APPROPRIATION - PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES PROGRAM - SPECIAL.  
 36 There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable

1 from the Governor’s Commission on People with Disabilities Fund, for  
2 operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce  
3 Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - People with Disabilities  
4 Program - Special for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

6 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
7 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
8 (01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
9 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$30,000
10 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
11 (C) PROF. FEES	0
12 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
13 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
14 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$30,000</u></u>

15  
16 SECTION 49. APPROPRIATION - TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT REVOLVING LOAN  
17 PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be  
18 payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by  
19 the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for providing loans to individuals  
20 with disabilities for essential assistive technology, adaptive equipment, and  
21 for loan administration/servicing by the Department of Commerce - Division of  
22 Workforce Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Technology Equipment  
23 Revolving Loan Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the  
24 following:

26 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
27 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
28 (01) LOANS	<u><u>\$750,000</u></u>

29  
30 SECTION 50. APPROPRIATION - CASH OPERATIONS. There is hereby  
31 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the cash fund  
32 deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of  
33 the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Commerce - Division of  
34 Workforce Services - Arkansas Rehabilitation Services - Cash Operations for  
35 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

1	ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
2	<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
3	(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
4	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$356,542
5	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
6	(C) PROF. FEES	0
7	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
8	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
9	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$356,542</u></u>

10

11 SECTION 51. REGULAR SALARIES - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE  
 12 BLIND. There is hereby established for the Department of Commerce - Division  
 13 of Workforce Services - Division of State Services for the Blind for the  
 14 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

15

16			Maximum Annual
17		Maximum	Salary Rate
18	Item Class	No. of	Fiscal Year
19	<u>No. Code Title</u>	<u>Employees</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
20	(1) PPE14C WORKFORCE DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC08
21	(2) PCO02C COMMERCE PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE SPC05
22	(3) PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS08
23	(4) EEP03P EDUCATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
24	(5) CTR02P TRAINER	2	GRADE SGS07
25	(6) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6	GRADE SGS05
26	(7) PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	1	GRADE SGS05
27	(8) PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS04
28	(9) PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	12	GRADE SGS02
29	(10) MRE04C REHABILITATION MANAGER	7	GRADE MED05
30	(11) MRE06P VOCATIONAL REHAB COUNSELOR	8	GRADE MED04
31	(12) MRE02P REHABILITATION COORDINATOR	18	GRADE MED02
32	(13) PSO01P COMMERCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS07
33	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	69	

34

35 SECTION 52. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department  
 36 of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Division of State Services for

1 the Blind for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
 2 part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from  
 3 funds appropriated herein for such purposes: thirty (30) temporary or part-  
 4 time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in  
 5 the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this  
 6 act for the appropriate classification.

7  
 8 SECTION 53. APPROPRIATION - STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND. There is  
 9 hereby appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the  
 10 paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for  
 11 personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce -  
 12 Division of Workforce Services - Division of State Services for the Blind for  
 13 the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

15 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
16 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
17 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,179,453
18 (02) EXTRA HELP	384,174
19 (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,298,688
20 (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
21 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,222,186
22 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	155,000
23 (C) PROF. FEES	195,259
24 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
25 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
26 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,534,760</u></u>

27  
 28 SECTION 54. APPROPRIATION - BLIND SERVICES GRANTS. There is hereby  
 29 appropriated, to the Department of Commerce, to be payable from the paying  
 30 account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grants  
 31 and aid and purchase of services by the Department of Commerce - Division of  
 32 Workforce Services - Blind Services Grants for the fiscal year ending June  
 33 30, 2027, the following:

35 ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
36 <u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>

1 (01) GRANTS AND AID/PURCHASE OF SERVICES \$6,000,000

2

3 SECTION 55. REGULAR SALARIES - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES -  
 4 WORKFORCE POLICY & INNOVATION. There is hereby established for the  
 5 Department of Commerce - Division of Workforce Services - Workforce Policy &  
 6 Innovation for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of  
 7 regular employees.

8

			Maximum Annual
			Salary Rate
			Fiscal Year
Item	Class	Maximum	
No.	Code Title	No. of	2026-2027
		Employees	
13	(1) EEX55A WORKFORCE DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC10
14	(2) PCO04P COMMERCE PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS08
15	(3) PCO03P COMMERCE PROGRAM SPECIALIST	11	GRADE SGS06
16	(4) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	3	GRADE SGS05
17	(5) PWD01P WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE SPC03
18	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	18	

19

20 SECTION 56. APPROPRIATION - DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SERVICES - WORKFORCE  
 21 POLICY & INNOVATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of  
 22 Commerce, to be payable from the Division of Workforce Services Trust Fund,  
 23 for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Commerce -  
 24 Division of Workforce Services - Workforce Policy & Innovation for the fiscal  
 25 year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

26

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
NO.	2026-2027
29 (01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,285,000
30 (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	428,792
31 (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
32 (A) OPER. EXPENSE	250,000
33 (B) CONF. & TRAVEL	15,000
34 (C) PROF. FEES	15,000
35 (D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
36 (E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>

1 TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$1,993,792

2  
3 SECTION 57. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
4 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
5 FORWARD - NEW HIRE REGISTRY. Any balance in the funds made available by this  
6 Act for the New Hire Registry which remain on June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, may be  
7 carried forward into the next fiscal year, to be used for the same purpose.

8 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein,  
9 may be carried forward under the following conditions:

10 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 the Agency shall by written statement  
11 set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
12 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

13 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
14 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
15 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
16 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
17 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
18 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
19 written request set forth in (1) above;

20 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a  
21 written report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
22 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
23 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
24 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
25 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
26 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
27 Committee; and

28 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall  
29 include all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals  
30 and/or a statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or  
31 Institution.

32 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
33 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

34  
35 SECTION 58. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
36 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. EXTRA

1 HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Division of Workforce Services for  
2 the ~~2025-2026~~ 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-  
3 time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds  
4 appropriated herein for such purposes: fifty (50) temporary or part-time  
5 employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the  
6 Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, for the  
7 appropriate classification. Any of these positions utilized in a manner  
8 which are funded by federal sources are specifically exempt from limitation  
9 of hours, either by Act or Regulation.

10 In order to comply with the timeliness requirements set forth by the  
11 Social Security Act, the Chairman of the Board of Review is authorized to  
12 utilize part-time or temporary employees from the pool of positions provided  
13 to the Division of Workforce Services in any occurrence where the number of  
14 appeals to the Board of Review or Appeal Tribunal increases above a level  
15 that can be resolved by the permanent staff in a timely manner. The Division  
16 of Workforce Services will determine the appropriate funding source within  
17 the Department for said positions.

18 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
19 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

20  
21 SECTION 59. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
22 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER  
23 OF APPROPRIATION. Subject to such rules and regulations as may be  
24 implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and after having sought  
25 the prior approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
26 Committee, the Director of the Division of Workforce Services is hereby  
27 authorized to make transfers from any appropriation made by this Act to any  
28 other appropriation made by this Act with the exception of the "Reed Act  
29 Funds" appropriations set forth in the Reed Act Funds appropriation section  
30 of this Act, and of the appropriation made for Regular Salaries or  
31 Maintenance and General Operation. Such transfers may be made whenever it  
32 appears, by projecting the expenditures of any of the appropriations in this  
33 Act, that there will be a deficiency of appropriation in one item and that  
34 there will be a corresponding excess of appropriation in another item or  
35 items which may be transferred. The transfer of appropriation shall be  
36 effected only on approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State. Provided,

1 however, that no transfer of appropriations may be authorized to increase the  
2 total amount appropriated for Regular Salaries, or Maintenance and General  
3 Operations, except as may be authorized elsewhere by law.

4 Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of  
5 appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year  
6 is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by  
7 delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and  
8 the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by  
9 amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly  
10 has determined that the Division of Workforce Services may operate more  
11 efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Division of Workforce  
12 Services authorizing broad powers under this Section. Therefore, it is both  
13 necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by  
14 requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
15 as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative  
16 Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section.  
17 If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget  
18 Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction,  
19 this entire section is void.

20 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
21 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

22  
23 SECTION 60. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
24 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRAINING  
25 TRUST FUND TRANSFER. Immediately upon the effective date of this Act, the  
26 Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall transfer on his or her books and  
27 those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor of the State the sum of up to  
28 two million five hundred thousand dollars (\$2,500,000) from the Division of  
29 Workforce Services Training Trust Fund to the Skills Development Fund.

30 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
31 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

32  
33 SECTION 61. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
34 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. FEDERAL  
35 MATCHING. The funds appropriated in Sections for Adult Basic and General  
36 Adult Education of this Act may also be used to match any available federal

1 funds from any agency in order to provide the maximum amount of money  
2 possible for the purposes enumerated in such Section.

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 62. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
7 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. ADULT  
8 EDUCATION DISTRIBUTION. All funds that become available for Adult Education  
9 shall be distributed to those administrative units determined to be operating  
10 efficient adult education programs, under criteria established by the  
11 Division of Workforce Services. The criteria shall include the relative  
12 efficiency of administration of the program in the counties served and  
13 achievement of federal performance indicators. The Division of Workforce  
14 Services shall promulgate rules and regulations for the distribution of funds  
15 in accordance with criteria to be determined by the Board. In the  
16 distribution of funds to local units the Board shall consider performance in  
17 meeting state and federal performance indicators. Unallocated funds will be  
18 redistributed based upon need as determined by the Division of Workforce  
19 Services.

20 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
21 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

22

23 SECTION 63. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
24 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
25 FORWARD - ARKANSAS REHABILITATION SERVICES. Any balance in the funds made  
26 available by this Act for the Arkansas Rehabilitation Services which remain  
27 on June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, may be carried forward into the next fiscal year, to  
28 be used for the same purpose.

29 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein,  
30 may be carried forward under the following conditions:

31 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 the Agency shall by written statement set  
32 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
33 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

34 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
35 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
36 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting

1 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
2 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
3 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
4 written request set forth in (1) above;

5 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
6 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
7 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
8 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
9 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
10 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
11 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
12 Committee; and

13 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include  
14 all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
15 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

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 64. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS  
20 CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY  
21 FORWARD - DIVISION OF STATE SERVICES FOR THE BLIND. Any balance in the funds  
22 made available by this Act for the Division of State Services for the Blind  
23 which remain on June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, may be carried forward into the next  
24 fiscal year, to be used for the same purpose.

25 Any carry forward of unexpended balance of funding as authorized herein,  
26 may be carried forward under the following conditions:

27 (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027 the Agency shall by written statement set  
28 forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the  
29 Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;

30 (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall  
31 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the  
32 September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting  
33 which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or  
34 Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward, the program name  
35 or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the  
36 written request set forth in (1) above;

1 (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written  
2 report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee  
3 containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written  
4 statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for  
5 which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30)  
6 days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents  
7 its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget  
8 Committee; and

9 (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include  
10 all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a  
11 statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

12 The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~  
13 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

14  
15 *SECTION 65. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE*  
16 *ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW.*  
17 *TRANSITIONAL AUTHORITY - VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION SERVICES.*

18 *(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the appropriations,*  
19 *positions, and related funding associated with vocational rehabilitation*  
20 *services shall be utilized in a manner that supports the planned*  
21 *consolidation of services, subject to existing appropriation authority and*  
22 *applicable law.*

23 *(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Division of*  
24 *Workforce Services, through Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, is authorized*  
25 *during the transition period to:*

26 *(1) Submit amendments to Arkansas's vocational rehabilitation*  
27 *services portion of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Unified or*  
28 *Combined State Plan;*

29 *(2) Represent to the United States Department of Education and*  
30 *other appropriate federal agencies that Arkansas intends to operate as a*  
31 *combined vocational rehabilitation agency;*

32 *(3) Undertake planning, coordination, and other administrative*  
33 *actions necessary to obtain federal approval for the transition to a combined*  
34 *vocational rehabilitation agency structure; and*

35 *(4) Take any action before the effective date of any statutory*  
36 *amendments necessary to fully implement the consolidation of vocational*

1 rehabilitation services.

2 (c)(1) To ensure compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29  
3 U.S.C. § 701 et seq., as it existed on January 1, 2025:

4 (A) The Division of Workforce Services shall serve as the  
5 designated state agency; and

6 (B) Arkansas Rehabilitation Services shall serve as the  
7 designated state agency for the administration of vocational rehabilitation  
8 services under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, 29 U.S.C. § 3101  
9 et seq., as it existed on January 1, 2025.

10 (2) Services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired shall  
11 continue to be provided through a distinct organizational unit within  
12 Arkansas Rehabilitation Services, to be known as the Office of Blind  
13 Services, in a manner consistent with federal law, and ensuring the provision  
14 of specialized and comprehensive services.

15 (d) The authority granted under this section:

16 (1) Is limited to actions necessary for fiscal alignment,  
17 federal planning, submission, approval, and transition coordination; and

18 (2) Shall not, by itself, effectuate the transfer of statutory  
19 authority, programs, appropriations, positions, or funding except as  
20 otherwise authorized by law or by further action of the General Assembly.

21 (e) This section is intended to ensure the continuity of services and  
22 funding, and it shall not be construed to interrupt services or federal  
23 funding.

24 (f) All actions taken under this section shall:

25 (1) Preserve services for individuals who are blind or visually  
26 impaired;

27 (2) Maintain eligibility for all federal vocational  
28 rehabilitation funding;

29 (3) Protect maintenance-of-effort requirements; and

30 (4) Ensure uninterrupted service delivery to current and future  
31 program participants.

32 (g) This section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2026, through  
33 June 30, 2027.

34  
35 SECTION 66. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds  
36 authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency

1 and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and  
2 the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and  
3 Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary  
4 Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal  
5 control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by  
6 the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be  
7 strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

8  
9 SECTION 67. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. It is the intent of the General  
10 Assembly that any funds disbursed under the authority of the appropriations  
11 contained in this act shall be in compliance with the stated reasons for  
12 which this act was adopted, as evidenced by the Agency Requests, Executive  
13 Recommendations and Legislative Recommendations contained in the budget  
14 manuals prepared by the Department of Finance and Administration, letters, or  
15 summarized oral testimony in the official minutes of the Arkansas Legislative  
16 Council or Joint Budget Committee which relate to its passage and adoption.

17  
18 SECTION 68. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
19 General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits  
20 the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the  
21 effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2026 is essential to the operation of  
22 the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in  
23 the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the  
24 effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2026 could work irreparable harm  
25 upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental  
26 programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act  
27 being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health  
28 and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2026.

29  
30 */s/ Joint Budget Committee*  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36