

State of Arkansas  
94th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2023

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1169

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  
AGRICULTURE - ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024; AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
- ARKANSAS NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION  
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL  
YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the  
Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission for the  
2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

| Item No. | Class Code | Title                               | Maximum No. of Employees | Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2023-2024 |
|----------|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| (1)      | U043U      | NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION DIRECTOR | 1                        | GRADE SE01                                       |
| (2)      | D040C      | GIS ANALYST                         | 1                        | GRADE IT06                                       |
| (3)      | G052N      | NATURAL RESOURCES DEPUTY DIRECTOR   | 1                        | GRADE GS15                                       |
| (4)      | B005C      | AGRI WATER DEVELOPMENT DIVISION MGR | 1                        | GRADE GS13                                       |
| (5)      | B004C      | AGRI WATER RESOURCES DIVISION MGR   | 1                        | GRADE GS13                                       |



|      |   |          |            |
|------|---|----------|------------|
| (6)  | B015C ENGINEER SUPERVISOR                 | 3        | GRADE GS12 |
| (7)  | B023C ENGINEER, P.E.                      | 9        | GRADE GS11 |
| (8)  | B035C GEOLOGY SUPERVISOR                  | 1        | GRADE GS09 |
| (9)  | B041C STATE CLIMATOLOGIST                 | 1        | GRADE GS09 |
| (10) | B055C ECOLOGIST COORDINATOR               | 1        | GRADE GS08 |
| (11) | G126C FINANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR         | 1        | GRADE GS08 |
| (12) | B043C PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST              | 2        | GRADE GS08 |
| (13) | A041C PROGRAM FISCAL MANAGER              | 2        | GRADE GS08 |
| (14) | B065C ECOLOGIST                           | 1        | GRADE GS07 |
| (15) | X054C ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR   | 3        | GRADE GS07 |
| (16) | G147C GRANTS COORDINATOR                  | 3        | GRADE GS07 |
| (17) | B060C LAND RESOURCE SPECIALIST SUPERVISOR | 1        | GRADE GS07 |
| (18) | P013C PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR      | 1        | GRADE GS07 |
| (19) | G145C RURAL CONST GRANT/FINANCIAL OFFICER | 6        | GRADE GS07 |
| (20) | C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST              | 2        | GRADE GS06 |
| (21) | B147C AGRI PROGRAM SPECIALIST             | 11       | GRADE GS06 |
| (22) | G180C GRANTS ANALYST                      | 1        | GRADE GS06 |
| (23) | A093C STATISTICIAN                        | 1        | GRADE GS06 |
| (24) | X129C CONSTRUCTION INSPECTOR              | 1        | GRADE GS05 |
| (25) | B093C LAND RESOURCE SPECIALIST            | 3        | GRADE GS05 |
| (26) | C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III       | <u>6</u> | GRADE GS04 |
|      | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES                     | 65       |            |

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of part-time or temporary employees, to be known as "Extra Help", payable from funds appropriated herein for such purposes: eight (8) temporary or part-time employees, when needed, at rates of pay not to exceed those provided in the Uniform Classification and Compensation Act, or its successor, or this act for the appropriate classification.

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources

Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                        | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES              | \$1,237,928              |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING    | 434,619                  |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION       |                          |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE                  | 193,182                  |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL                 | 10,165                   |
| (C) PROF. FEES                     | 0                        |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                    | 0                        |
| (E) DATA PROC.                     | 0                        |
| (04) CONSERVATION DISTRICT EXPENSE | 941,872                  |
| (05) SURVEYS & INVESTIGATIONS      | 3,900                    |
| (06) WATER PLANNING                | <u>130,981</u>           |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED          | <u>\$2,952,647</u>       |

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                      | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES            | \$895,653                |
| (02) EXTRA HELP                  | 30,800                   |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING  | 336,316                  |
| (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION     |                          |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE                | 377,298                  |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL               | 27,000                   |
| (C) PROF. FEES                   | 910,002                  |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                  | 225,000                  |
| (E) DATA PROC.                   | 0                        |
| (05) SOIL & WATER GRANTS & LOANS | <u>6,202,017</u>         |

TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$9,004,086

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - DAM INVENTORY. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, 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 Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Dam Inventory for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                                | FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 |
|---|-----------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES                   | \$62,531              |
| (02) EXTRA HELP                         | 10,000                |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING         | 22,320                |
| (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION            |                       |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE                       | 49,216                |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL                      | 17,000                |
| (C) PROF. FEES                          | 130,000               |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                         | 10,000                |
| (E) DATA PROC.                          | 0                     |
| (05) GRANTS & AID DAM - SAFETY PROJECTS | 76,997                |
| (06) HIGH HAZARD DAMS REHAB             | <u>226,803</u>        |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED               | <u>\$604,867</u>      |

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, 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 Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Flood Insurance Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                        | FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$148,373             |
| (02) EXTRA HELP                 | 10,000                |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 56,207                |

|                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION     |                           |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE                | 268,504                   |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL               | 32,571                    |
| (C) PROF. FEES                   | 1,700,000                 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                  | 25,000                    |
| (E) DATA PROC.                   | 0                         |
| (05) GRANTS & AID - FLOOD HAZARD |                           |
| MITIGATION GRANTS                | <u>3,000,000</u>          |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED        | <u><u>\$5,240,655</u></u> |

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - WATER QUALITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water Quality Plan Implementation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR               |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2023-2024</u>          |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$316,876                 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 101,647                   |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                           |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 3,089                     |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 1,000                     |
| (C) PROF. FEES                  | 0                         |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 0                         |
| (E) DATA PROC.                  | 0                         |
| (04) WATER QUALITY MATCH GRANTS | 762,000                   |
| (05) WATER QUALITY TECHNICIAN   | <u>750,000</u>            |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u><u>\$1,934,612</u></u> |

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - WATER, WASTE DISPOSAL, AND POLLUTION ABATEMENT PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Water, Waste Disposal, Pollution Abatement, Administrative and Research Facilities Construction Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture -

Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water, Waste Disposal, and Pollution Abatement Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                        | FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$170,169             |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 61,094                |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                       |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 4,400                 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 0                     |
| (C) PROF. FEES                  | 0                     |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 0                     |
| (E) DATA PROC.                  | 0                     |
| (04) PROJECT DISBURSEMENTS      | <u>90,000,000</u>     |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u>\$90,235,663</u>   |

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION CONTROL PROGRAM.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, 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 Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                               | FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 |
|--|-----------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES                  | \$282,533             |
| (02) EXTRA HELP                        | 25,000                |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING        | 109,652               |
| (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION           |                       |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE                      | 282,774               |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL                     | 50,000                |
| (C) PROF. FEES                         | 706,630               |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                        | 50,000                |
| (E) DATA PROC.                         | 0                     |
| (05) NON POINT SOURCE POLLUTION GRANTS | 5,642,276             |

|      |                                  |                           |
|------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| (06) | HYPOXIA NUTRIENT REDUCTION       | 200,000                   |
| (07) | SMALL/ DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES | <u>637,000</u>            |
|      | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED        | <u><u>\$7,985,865</u></u> |

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - CONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, 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 Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Construction Assistance Revolving Loan Fund Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM                            | FISCAL YEAR             |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u>                      | <u>2023-2024</u>        |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$619,282               |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 233,934                 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |                         |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 111,841                 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 12,219                  |
| (C) PROF. FEES                  | 13,500                  |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY                 | 0                       |
| (E) DATA PROC.                  | <u>0</u>                |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED       | <u><u>\$990,776</u></u> |

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - BEAVER ERADICATION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for grants to the conservation districts for beaver control programs within the districts of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Beaver Eradication Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM                                    | FISCAL YEAR      |
|---|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u>                              | <u>2023-2024</u> |
| (01) GRANTS FOR BEAVER CONTROL PROGRAMS | <u>\$150,000</u> |

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS & ATTORNEY SERVICES. There is

hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Grants and Attorney Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                        | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) RIVER BASIN COMPACT           | \$42,820                 |
| (02) LEGAL COUNSEL                 | 5,871                    |
| (03) COMMITTEE/COMMISSION EXPENSES | 10,000                   |
| (04) CONSERVATION PROJECTS         | 3,500                    |
| (05) ARKANSAS RIVER COMPACT        | 17,800                   |
| (06) RED RIVER COMPACT             | <u>11,720</u>            |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED          | <u><u>\$91,711</u></u>   |

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROGRAM GRANTS.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for grants to conservation districts of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Conservation District Program Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                           | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) GRANTS TO CONSERVATION DISTRICTS | <u><u>\$250,000</u></u>  |

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WATER RESEARCH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water Research for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                  | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) WATER RESEARCH/CONTRACT | <u><u>\$42,800</u></u>   |

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - CONSERVATION DISTRICT EMPLOYEES INSURANCE.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services matching of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Conservation District Employees Insurance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                     | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (01) MEDICAL INSURANCE MATCHING | <u>\$528,000</u>         |

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - WATER, SEWER, AND SOLID WASTE - REVOLVING.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Water, Sewer and Solid Waste Revolving Fund, for water, sewer, and solid waste grants of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste - Revolving for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                                       | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|---|--------------------------|
| (01) WATER, SEWER AND SOLID WASTE GRANTS &<br>AID | <u>\$6,000,000</u>       |

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - WATER, SEWER, AND SOLID WASTE - STATE.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for water, sewer, and solid waste grants or loans that will be repaid to the Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste - Revolving appropriation of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water, Sewer, and Solid Waste - State for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                              | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|--|--------------------------|
| (01) WATER, SEWER AND SOLID WASTE GRANTS | <u>\$84,296</u>          |

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - WATER USE PROGRAM. There is hereby

appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for reporting expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Water Use Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                      | FISCAL YEAR      |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| (01) WATER USE DATA REPORTING | <u>\$125,000</u> |

SECTION 19. REGULAR SALARIES - CONSERVATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

There is hereby established for the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Conservation Technical Assistance for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

| Item No. | Class Code | Title                             | Maximum No. of Employees | Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2023-2024 |
|----------|------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| (1)      | X054C      | ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM COORDINATOR | <u>3</u>                 | GRADE GS07                                       |
|          |            | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES             | 3                        |  |

SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - CONSERVATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, 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 Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Conservation Technical Assistance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM NO.                        | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES           | \$146,126   |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 54,883      |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION    |             |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE               | 120,246     |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL              | 0           |

|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| (C) PROF. FEES            | 0                         |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY           | 40,000                    |
| (E) DATA PROC.            | 0                         |
| (04) RESOURCE GRANTS      | <u>906,637</u>            |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,267,892</u></u> |

SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - UNPAVED ROADS PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Program Fund, for grants or operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Unpaved Roads Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.  | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024 |
|--|--------------------------|
| (01) UNPAVED ROADS GRANTS & AID OR<br>OPERATING EXPENSES | <u><u>\$300,000</u></u>  |

SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - FERAL SWINE ERADICATION AND CONTROL - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for expenses associated with the eradication efforts to eliminate feral swine by the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Natural Resources Commission - Feral Swine Eradication and Control - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

| ITEM<br>NO.                              | FISCAL YEAR<br>2023-2024  |
|--|---------------------------|
| (01) FERAL SWINE ERADICATION AND CONTROL | <u><u>\$3,000,000</u></u> |

SECTION 23. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER PROVISION. At the end of each fiscal year, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall authorize the transfer of obligated water, sewer, and solid waste funds, as provided in the appropriation act for the Natural Resources Commission in the appropriation entitled "Water, Sewer and Solid Waste - State", from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, to the Water,

Sewer and Solid Waste Revolving Fund.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 24. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

CARRY FORWARD. At the end of each fiscal year, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall authorize the carry forward of funds to support the amount of obligated grants that are certified by the Natural Resources Commission for Matching Grants in the appropriation entitled "Water Quality Plan Implementation".

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

- (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024 the Agency shall by written statement set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;
- (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward from the first fiscal year to the second fiscal year, the program name or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the written request set forth in (1) above;
- (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30) days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget Committee; and
- (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~

2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

CARRY FORWARD. At the end of the fiscal year, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall authorize the carry forward of funds to support the amount of obligated grants that are certified by the Natural Resources Commission for Water Quality Technicians in the appropriation entitled "Water Quality Plan Implementation".

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

- (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024 the Agency shall by written statement set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget;
- (2) The Department of Finance and Administration Office of Budget shall report to the Arkansas Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the September Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee meeting which report shall include the name of the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution and the amount of the funding carried forward from the first fiscal year to the second fiscal year, the program name or line item, the funding source of that appropriation and a copy of the written request set forth in (1) above;
- (3) Each Agency, Board, Commission or Institution shall provide a written report to the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee containing all information set forth in item (2) above, along with a written statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose etc. for which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30) days prior to the time the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution presents its budget request to the Arkansas Legislative Council/Joint Budget Committee; and
- (4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include all information obtained in item (3) above in the budget manuals and/or a statement of non-compliance by the Agency, Board, Commission or Institution.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2022~~ 2023 through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 26. COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER LAWS. Disbursement of funds authorized by this act shall be limited to the appropriation for such agency and funds made available by law for the support of such appropriations; and the restrictions of the State Procurement Law, the General Accounting and Budgetary Procedures Law, the Revenue Stabilization Law, the Regular Salary Procedures and Restrictions Act, or their successors, and other fiscal control laws of this State, where applicable, and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration, as authorized by law, shall be strictly complied with in disbursement of said funds.

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

SECTION 28. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly, that the Constitution of the State of Arkansas prohibits the appropriation of funds for more than a one (1) year period; that the effectiveness of this Act on July 1, 2023 is essential to the operation of the agency for which the appropriations in this Act are provided, and that in the event of an extension of the legislative session, the delay in the effective date of this Act beyond July 1, 2023 could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 2023.

**APPROVED: 4/11/23**