

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2023

As Engrossed: S4/4/23

A Bill

SENATE BILL 83

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 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2024;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2023-2024 FISCAL
YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby established for the Department of Agriculture 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)	SC001	SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE	1	GRADE SE05
(2)	U072U	DEPUTY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE	1	GRADE SE02
(3)	U057U	AGRI LABORATORY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(4)	L104C	AGRI LABORATORY COORDINATOR	1	GRADE MP04
(5)	D022N	IT SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER	1	GRADE IT09
(6)	D007C	INFORMATION SYSTEMS MANAGER	2	GRADE IT08
(7)	D054C	COMPUTER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	1	GRADE IT05



(8)	D063C COMPUTER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IT05
(9)	D061C INFORMATION SYS COORDINATION SPEC	1	GRADE IT05
(10)	D057C INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER	1	GRADE IT05
(11)	D052C SOFTWARE SUPPORT ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
(12)	D056C SYSTEMS COORDINATION ANALYST	1	GRADE IT05
(13)	A010C AGENCY CONTROLLER II	1	GRADE GS13
(14)	B006C AGRI CONSERVATION DIVISION MGR	1	GRADE GS13
(15)	A010N AGRICULTURE CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER	1	GRADE GS13
(16)	N001C DEPUTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	1	GRADE GS13
(17)	G004C MANAGING ATTORNEY	2	GRADE GS13
(18)	B002C AGRI DIRECTOR OF MARKETING	1	GRADE GS12
(19)	R006C HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE GS12
(20)	A027C ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
(21)	B010C AGRI DIVISION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS11
(22)	G047C ATTORNEY SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS11
(23)	G076C ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER	2	GRADE GS10
(24)	T110C AGRI LAW ENFORCEMENT CHIEF	1	GRADE GS10
(25)	B144C FARM SCHOOL COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS10
(26)	A050C AGENCY FISCAL MANAGER	2	GRADE GS09
(27)	G109C GRANTS MANAGER	4	GRADE GS09
(28)	A082C ACCOUNTANT II	1	GRADE GS08
(29)	T121C AGRI LAW ENFORCEMENT ASST CHIEF	1	GRADE GS08
(30)	B049C AGRI PROGRAM MANAGER	4	GRADE GS08
(31)	G126C FINANCE PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS08
(32)	A089C ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE GS07
(33)	X109C AGRI INVESTIGATOR	2	GRADE GS07
(34)	B072C AGRI PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE GS07
(35)	R024C ASSISTANT PERSONNEL MANAGER	2	GRADE GS07
(36)	A073C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDITOR SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS07
(37)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	2	GRADE GS06
(38)	P049C GRAPHIC ARTIST	1	GRADE GS06
(39)	G179C LEGAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(40)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(41)	V014C BUYER	3	GRADE GS05
(42)	A091C FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST	3	GRADE GS05
(43)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	1	GRADE GS04

(44) A098C FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST 2 GRADE GS04
 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 63

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Agriculture - Shared Services 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: three (3) 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 - SHARED SERVICES PAYING ACCOUNT. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Shared Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,016,734
(02) EXTRA HELP	21,900
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,359,181
(04) UNIFORM ALLOWANCE	140,000
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	2,962,067
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	33,500
(C) PROF. FEES	904,500
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	200,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	<u>60,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$9,697,882</u></u>

SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Agriculture for the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
			No. of Employees	Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2023-2024
(1)	U048U	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(2)	U044U	PLANT INDUSTRY DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SE01
(3)	U003U	STATE FORESTER	1	GRADE SE01
(4)	B004N	STATE VETERINARIAN	1	GRADE MP05
(5)	L106C	VETERINARY SPECIALIST	5	GRADE MP04
(6)	B001C	DEPUTY STATE FORESTER	1	GRADE GS13
(7)	N058N	LIVESTOCK & POULTRY DIV DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
(8)	G036N	PLANT INDUSTRY DIV DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS12
(9)	B010C	AGRI DIVISION MANAGER	6	GRADE GS11
(10)	B014C	ASST STATE FORESTER	2	GRADE GS11
(11)	B149C	SR LABORATORY SCIENTIST	1	GRADE GS11
(12)	B022C	DISTRICT FORESTER	8	GRADE GS10
(13)	E013C	EDUCATION PROGRAM MANAGER	1	GRADE GS10
(14)	X217C	NATIONAL POULTRY IMPROVEMENT PLAN COORD	1	GRADE GS10
(15)	B136C	AGRI LAB QUALITY MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
(16)	S005C	AVIATION MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
(17)	B037C	CHEMIST SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS09
(18)	G109C	GRANTS MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
(19)	B034C	MICROBIOLOGIST SUPERVISOR	5	GRADE GS09
(20)	B038C	STATE FOREST MANAGER	1	GRADE GS09
(21)	B049C	AGRI PROGRAM MANAGER	21	GRADE GS08
(22)	X148C	AIRCRAFT PILOT	3	GRADE GS08
(23)	B067C	ARCHAEOLOGIST	3	GRADE GS08
(24)	B127C	SENIOR MICROBIOLOGIST	1	GRADE GS08
(25)	B058C	STAFF FORESTER	5	GRADE GS08
(26)	A089C	ACCOUNTANT I	1	GRADE GS07
(27)	C015C	AGRI ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	2	GRADE GS07
(28)	X058C	AGRI COMMODITY AREA SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS07
(29)	X111C	AGRI INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR	4	GRADE GS07
(30)	B072C	AGRI PROGRAM COORDINATOR	9	GRADE GS07
(31)	B081C	CHEMIST	16	GRADE GS07

(32)	B080C FORESTER	38	GRADE GS07
(33)	B077C MICROBIOLOGIST	12	GRADE GS07
(34)	C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	4	GRADE GS06
(35)	X146C AGRI INSPECTOR III	34	GRADE GS06
(36)	B147C AGRI PROGRAM SPECIALIST	3	GRADE GS06
(37)	D076C COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE GS06
(38)	B088C COUNTY FOREST RANGER	61	GRADE GS06
(39)	B078C METROLOGIST	2	GRADE GS06
(40)	A084C PROGRAM/FIELD AUDIT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE GS06
(41)	P027C PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS06
(42)	E046C TRAINING INSTRUCTOR	1	GRADE GS06
(43)	X157C AGRI INSPECTOR II	99	GRADE GS05
(44)	X097C AGRI SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS05
(45)	S036C AUTO/DIESEL MECHANIC SUPERVISOR	2	GRADE GS05
(46)	V014C BUYER	2	GRADE GS05
(47)	B098C FOREST RANGER II	110	GRADE GS05
(48)	C054C LOCAL OFFICE ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	10	GRADE GS05
(49)	D081C TELECOMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST	8	GRADE GS05
(50)	C056C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	8	GRADE GS04
(51)	X165C AGRI INSPECTOR I	2	GRADE GS04
(52)	B096C AGRI SEED ANALYST	5	GRADE GS04
(53)	S053C AUTO/DIESEL MECHANIC	4	GRADE GS04
(54)	S040C CALIBRATION TECHNICIAN	2	GRADE GS04
(55)	B101C NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM TECHNICIAN	4	GRADE GS04
(56)	C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	11	GRADE GS03
(57)	S060C HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	<u>3</u>	GRADE GS02
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	539	

SECTION 5. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Agriculture 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: one hundred seventy-three (173) 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 6. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Department of Agriculture Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$9,924,559
(02) EXTRA HELP	74,131
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	3,814,343
(04) OVERTIME	21,571
(05) UNIFORM ALLOWANCE	3,200
(06) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,716,272
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	33,613
(C) PROF. FEES	33,500
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(07) PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES	6,148
(08) BOLL WEEVIL PROGRAM	<u>5,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$15,632,337</u>

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY - ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL AND ERADICATION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Livestock and Poultry Commission Disease and Pest Control Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Livestock and Poultry Commission - Animal Disease Control and Eradication Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$554,459
(02) EXTRA HELP	55,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	233,211

(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	213,846
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	120,000
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,176,516</u></u>

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY - EGG GRADING PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Poultry and Egg Grading Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Livestock and Poultry Commission - Egg Grading Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,547,261
(02) EXTRA HELP	67,500
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	719,486
(04) OVERTIME	300,000
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	252,971
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	18,350
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	1,462,968
(07) EGG PROMOTION EXPENSE	<u>64,500</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,533,036</u></u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - AGRI LABORATORY TESTING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Agri Laboratory Testing for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$265,550
(02) EXTRA HELP	34,500
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	110,847
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,625,245
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	25,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	310,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) NAHLN ENHANCEMENT PROJECT	<u>71,500</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,442,642</u></u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY - EQUINE INFECTIOUS ANEMIA. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Livestock and Poultry Equine Infectious Anemia Control Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Livestock and Poultry Commission - Equine Infectious Anemia for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$76,551
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	29,560
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	233,046
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	100,000
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$439,157</u></u>

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY - ANIMAL HEALTH. 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 - Livestock and Poultry Commission - Animal Health for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$388,822
(02) EXTRA HELP	8,311
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	160,938
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	118,111
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,350
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$681,532</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - ADMINISTRATION/PEST CONTROL.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Plant Board Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Administration/Pest Control for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$3,850,252
(02) EXTRA HELP	700,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,600,045
(04) OVERTIME	200,000
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	1,102,968
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	103,613
(C) PROF. FEES	594,510
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	885,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0

(06) PROJECT PLANNING, EDUCATION, AND OUTREACH GRANTS AND AID	394,140
(07) PEST ERADICATION	1,000,000
(08) LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT	<u>55,346</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$10,485,874</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - PUBLIC GRAIN WAREHOUSE INSPECTION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Plant Board Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Public Grain Warehouse Inspection Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$186,439
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	72,969
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	60,614
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,613
(C) PROF. FEES	1,200
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$325,835</u></u>

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - PESTICIDE SURVEILLANCE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Plant Board Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Pesticide Surveillance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$179,329
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	71,243
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	

(A) OPER. EXPENSE	40,783
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$297,355</u></u>

SECTION 15. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - APIARY. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Plant Board Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Apiary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$112,555
(02) EXTRA HELP	10,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	42,071
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	42,170
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$206,796</u></u>

SECTION 16. APPROPRIATION - AGRI PRODUCT MARKETING 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 - Agri Product Marketing Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$242,308

(02)	EXTRA HELP	50,000
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	94,159
(04)	OVERTIME	13,000
(05)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	187,210
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	93,210
	(C) PROF. FEES	50,000
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06)	PRODUCT MARKETING GRANTS & AID	739,059
(07)	PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	<u>5,000</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,473,946</u></u>

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - REFUNDS/TRANSFERS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for operating expenses, refunds, and transfers to the State Treasury by the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Refunds/Transfers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	
(01)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$500
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
	(C) PROF. FEES	0
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02)	REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>4,515,100</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$4,515,600</u></u>

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - PLANT BOARD - PESTICIDE/PLANT REGULATORY PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Abandoned Agricultural Pesticide and Plant Regulator Disposal Trust Fund, for operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board - Pesticide/Plant Regulatory Program for the fiscal year

ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$1,500,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,500,000</u>

SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - AGRI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Agri Scholarship Program Fund for grants for internships and scholarships of the Department of Agriculture - Agri Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

<i>ITEM NO.</i>	<i>FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024</i>
<i>(01) AGRI SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM</i>	<u><u>\$970,000</u></u>

SECTION 20. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the State Forestry Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$7,144,968
(02) EXTRA HELP	255,855
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,911,073
(04) OVERTIME	52,400
(05) UNIFORM ALLOWANCE	0
(06) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	

(A) OPER. EXPENSE	2,510,744
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	100,000
(C) PROF. FEES	280,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	1,663,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(07) FORESTRY GRANTS AND AID	269,981
(08) DISTRICT OFFICE REPLACEMENT	600,000
(09) FOREST ACTION PLAN	70,000
(10) FEDERAL INITIATIVE PROGRAM	138,512
(11) FORESTRY LEGACY PROGRAM	<u>3,190,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$19,186,533</u>

SECTION 21. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - RURAL COMMUNITY FIRE PROTECTION - 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 personal services, operating expenses and federal matching grants to purchase firefighting equipment by the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Rural Community Fire Protection - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$98,376
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	37,736
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	364,816
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	30,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	185,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(04) RURAL COMMUNITY MATCH GRANTS	<u>602,563</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,318,491</u>

SECTION 22. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - URBAN FORESTRY SERVICES - FEDERAL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the State Forestry Fund, for personal services, operating

expenses and urban forestry matching grants of the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Urban Forestry Services - Federal for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$67,500
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	50,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) URBAN FORESTRY MATCHING GRANTS AND AID	<u>82,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$199,500</u></u>

SECTION 23. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - RURAL FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE LOANS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Rural Fire Protection Revolving Fund, for loans to communities for fire protection by the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Rural Fire Protection Service Loans for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) RURAL FIRE PROTECTION LOANS	<u><u>\$1,200,000</u></u>

SECTION 24. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - STATE FORESTRY TRUST PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the State Forestry Trust Fund, for management and operating expenses, fire control, communications, contracting for assistance, and other services of the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - State Forestry Trust Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	

(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$200,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	2,250,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) FIRE CONTROL/COMMUNICATE	900,000
(03) MANAGEMENT & OPERATIONS	<u>300,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$3,750,000</u></u>

SECTION 25. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE PREVENTION.

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 grants by the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Southern Pine Beetle Prevention for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE GRANTS AND AID	<u><u>\$150,000</u></u>

SECTION 26. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - FOREST LEGACY. 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 operating expenses and grants and aid by the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Forest Legacy for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$6,599
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	1,800
(C) PROF. FEES	5,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) GRANTS & AID FOR LAND ACQUISITION	<u><u>137,500</u></u>

TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$150,899

SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - SILVICULTURAL NON-POINT 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 operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Forestry Commission - Silvicultural Non-Point Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$36,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	4,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$40,000</u>

SECTION 28. APPROPRIATION - AGRICULTURE CASH OPERATING FUND. 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 operating expenses and grants of the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$40,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) PROMOTIONAL ITEMS	2,000
(03) BUFFALO RIVER WATERSHED GRANTS & PROJECTS	<u>1,000,000</u>

TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED \$1,042,000

SECTION 29. APPROPRIATION - INDUSTRIAL HEMP RESEARCH PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Arkansas Industrial Hemp Program Fund, for personal services and operating expenses to administer the Industrial Hemp Research Program of the Department of Agriculture - State Plant Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) INDUSTRIAL HEMP RESEARCH PROGRAM	<u>\$300,000</u>

SECTION 30. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - FORESTERS REGISTRATION BOARD. 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 State Board of Registration for Foresters for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) EXTRA HELP	\$37,000
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	2,839
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	6,329
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$46,168</u>

SECTION 31. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - VETERINARY MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Veterinary Examiners Board Fund, for personal services operating expenses, and for grants for internships and scholarships of the

Department of Agriculture - Veterinary Medical Examining Board for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$60,331
(02) EXTRA HELP	21,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	22,150
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	15,996
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	281
(C) PROF. FEES	16,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) <i>RURAL VETERINARY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM</i>	<u>30,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$165,758</u></u>

SECTION 32. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS - SOIL CLASSIFIERS REGISTRATION BOARD. 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 operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$1,296
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,296</u></u>

SECTION 33. APPROPRIATION - FORESTRY - RURAL FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM.

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 - State Forestry Commission - Rural Fire Protection Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) RURAL FIRE PROTECTION PROGRAM	<u>\$70,000</u>

SECTION 34. APPROPRIATION - MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the State Meat Inspection Program Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture - State Meat Inspection Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) STATE MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM	<u>\$750,000</u>

SECTION 35. APPROPRIATION - MEAT INSPECTION PROGRAM - GENERAL REVENUE. 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 - State Meat Inspection Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$368,792
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	144,946
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	340,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$853,738</u>

SECTION 36. APPROPRIATION - FERAL HOG ERADICATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Feral Hog Eradication Fund, for expenses associated with the eradication efforts to eliminate feral hogs by the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) FERAL HOG ERADICATION	<u>\$3,000,000</u>

SECTION 37. APPROPRIATION - AGRI FAIR FUNDING PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Agri Fair Fund, for personal services, fair funding and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
(01) COUNTY FAIRS	\$580,272
(02) FOUR STATES FAIR	30,000
(03) ARKANSAS-OKLAHOMA FAIR	30,000
(04) ARKANSAS STATE FAIR	84,000
(05) PROGRAM OPERATION EXPENSES	105,000
(06) GRANTS FOR FAIR EXPENSES	<u>523,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$1,352,272</u>

SECTION 38. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS FORESTERS FOR THE FUTURE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Agriculture, to be payable from the Arkansas Foresters for the Future Scholarship Fund, for scholarships of the Department of Agriculture - Arkansas Foresters for the Future Scholarship Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024
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(01) SCHOLARSHIPS

\$30,000

SECTION 39. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

FAIR FUND TRANSFER. On July 1 of each fiscal year, or as soon as is practical, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may transfer the amount needed for distribution by the Department of Agriculture to fund fairs from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account to the Agri Fair Fund.

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

SECTION 40. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

SHARED SERVICES.

(a)(1) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may create paying accounts on his or her books and on the books of the Treasurer of the State and Auditor of State for the payment of all personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Agriculture.

(2) The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall direct the transfer of funds and appropriations to the Shared Services Paying Account appropriation section of this act on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State.

(3) The transfer authority provided to the department in subdivision (a)(2) of this section may be used to make transfers only within the department's appropriation act or between other appropriations acts authorized for the department.

(4) The provisions of this section shall be in effect from the date of passage through June 30, ~~2023~~ 2024.

SECTION 41. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

FUND TRANSFER. The Deputy Director of the Livestock and Poultry Commission, with prior approval of the Arkansas Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee, the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, and for the reimbursing of documented expenditures designated by law to be made from the transferred special revenue, may transfer funds among the Livestock and

Poultry Equine Infectious Anemia Control Fund, Livestock and Poultry Commission Disease and Pest Control Fund, Livestock and Poultry Special Revenue Fund, Livestock and Poultry Commission Swine Testing Fund, and the Poultry and Egg Grading Fund or from these funds to the Livestock and Poultry Fund Account. The purpose of these transfers shall only be for accurate allocation of incurred costs between the funds. Requests for fund transfer will at least include the total amount to be transferred, to and from which funds, the nature, purpose, and time period of the expenditures being reimbursed, and any other information requested by the Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee.

Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that the Arkansas Agriculture Department - Livestock and Poultry Commission may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Agriculture Department - Livestock and Poultry Commission authorizing broad powers under this Section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

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

SECTION 42. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

TRANSFER PROVISION - PEST ERADICATION. If the State Plant Board determines that the demands of pest eradication efforts require additional personnel expenses, with the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, appropriations

may be transferred from the Pest Eradication Program special line item to the line items for Regular Salaries, Extra Help, Overtime, and Personal Services Matching.

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

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

SECTION 43. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

TRANSFER PROVISION. If the State Forestry Commission determines that temporary firefighters, dispatchers, or pilots are required to meet the demands of a wildfire season, and upon approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, appropriations may be transferred from either Extra Help or Professional Fees and Services to the proper character code for the employment of such personnel.

If the State Forestry Commission determines that the deployment of air tankers for fighting wildfires requires additional Professional Fees and Services, and upon the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, excess appropriation in Regular Salaries or Personal Services Matching may be transferred to Professional Fees and Services in the Operations and Forestry - Rural Community Fire Protection - Federal appropriation sections.

If the State Forestry Commission determines that the most effective way for it to cooperate in the growing and distribution of forest planting stock is by contracting work with private vendors and/or hiring temporary employees for seasonal work, the Commission is hereby authorized, upon approval by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, to transfer the necessary appropriation authorized for Extra Help and Maintenance and General Operation in the Operations and Forestry - Rural Community Fire Protection - Federal appropriation sections.

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

SECTION 44. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

REFUND TO EXPENDITURE. The Arkansas Forestry Commission is authorized to charge fees to federal agencies and other states to reimburse the Commission for expenditures made on behalf of these governmental units. These fees shall be deposited into the State Forestry Fund in the State Treasury as a refund to expenditure.

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

SECTION 45. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

PROMOTIONAL ITEMS. The Chief Fiscal Officer of the State shall establish upon request for the Arkansas Agriculture Department a special Promotional Items appropriation to be used in the acquisition of promotional items. When the Arkansas Agriculture Department wishes to transfer from its operating expenses to the promotional items line, the request shall be forwarded by the Arkansas Agriculture Department to the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State for processing and for prior approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Determining the maximum number of employees and the maximum amount of appropriation and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly. This is usually accomplished by delineating such maximums in the appropriation act(s) for a state agency and the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the

Revenue Stabilization law. Further, the General Assembly has determined that the Arkansas Agriculture Department may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Arkansas Agriculture Department authorizing broad powers under this Section. Therefore, it is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly maintain oversight by requiring prior approval of the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee as provided by this section. The requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is not a severable part of this section. If the requirement of approval by the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee is ruled unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, this entire section is void.

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

SECTION 46. 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 47. 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 48. 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.

/s/Joint Budget Committee

APPROVED: 4/13/23