

State of Arkansas
94th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2024

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1029

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PROVIDING PAYMENT OF CLAIMS TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND/OR DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF POLICEMEN, FIREMEN, CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND OTHER SPECIFIED STATE EMPLOYEES KILLED IN THE OFFICIAL LINE OF DUTY, AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF SMALL CONTROVERSIAL AND NON-CONTROVERSIAL CLAIMS WHICH HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION; PROVIDING PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2025; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS STATE CLAIMS COMMISSION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Arkansas State Claims Commission for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item	Class	No.	Code	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
					Employees	Salary Rate
						Fiscal Year
						2024-2025



(1) N154N CLAIMS COMMISSION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE GS13
(2) G047C ATTORNEY SPECIALIST	1	GRADE GS11
(3) C037C ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	1	GRADE GS06
(4) C073C ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	2	GRADE GS03
(5) U051U CLAIMS COMMISSIONER	<u>5</u>	GRADE GS02
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	10	

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas State Claims Commission, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas State Claims Commission for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

ITEM <u>NO.</u>	FISCAL YEAR <u>2024-2025</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$455,659
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	180,565
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	95,390
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$731,614</u></u>

SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - CLAIMS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas State Claims Commission, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Revolving Fund, for payment of claims awarded to surviving spouses and/or dependent children of deceased policemen, firemen, correctional officers and other specified state employees killed in the official line of duty, as prescribed by law; for payment of small controversial claim awards made by the Arkansas State Claims Commission; and for payment of awards made by the Arkansas State Claims Commission, as provided by law, on non-controversial claims, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
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NO. 2024-2025

(01) CLAIMS FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES/DEPENDENT CHILDREN, SMALL CONTROVERSIAL CLAIMS AND SMALL NON-CONTROVERSIAL CLAIMS \$2,250,000

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - FIREFIGHTER BENEFIT REVIEW PANEL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas State Claims Commission, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for expense reimbursements for the Firefighter Benefit Review Panel for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the sum of.....\$8,000.

SECTION 5. 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 6. 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 7. 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, 2024 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, 2024 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, 2024.

APPROVED: 5/3/24