

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 891 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: S4/7/25

A Bill

SENATE BILL 40

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH, AND THE INTERIM COMMITTEES OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2025-2026 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

| <i>Item No.</i> | <i>Class Code</i> | <i>Title</i> | <i>Maximum No. of Employees</i> | <i>Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2025-2026</i> |
|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|
| (1) | Q030U | DIRECTOR, BUREAU OF LEGIS RESEARCH | 1 | GRADE EXE04 |
| (2) | Q302C | DEPUTY DIRECTOR | 3 | GRADE EXE03 |
| (3) | Q303C | BLR CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE EXE03 |



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|------|-------|--|----------|-------|-------|
| (4) | Q304C | BLR CHIEF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICER | 1 | GRADE | IST14 |
| (5) | Q305C | BLR CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER | 1 | GRADE | EXE02 |
| (6) | Q306C | LEGAL RES & DRAFTING CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE | EXE02 |
| (7) | Q307C | ADMINISTRATIVE RULES CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE | EXE02 |
| (8) | Q308C | STATUTORY REVIEW CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL | 1 | GRADE | EXE02 |
| (9) | Q309C | LEGISLATIVE PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | SPC10 |
| (10) | Q310C | LEGISLATIVE BUDGET ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | SPC10 |
| (11) | Q311C | LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMMER ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | IST13 |
| (12) | Q312C | LEGISLATIVE NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | IST13 |
| (13) | Q313C | RESEARCH & POLICY ANALYSIS ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | SPC10 |
| (14) | Q314C | COMMITTEE SERVICES ADMINISTRATOR | 1 | GRADE | SPC10 |
| (15) | Q315C | LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS EXPERT | 5 | GRADE | IST11 |
| (16) | Q316C | LEGISLATIVE IT INFRASTRUCTURE EXPERT | 4 | GRADE | IST11 |
| (17) | Q317C | LEGISLATIVE WEBSITE SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE | IST07 |
| (18) | Q318C | LEGISLATIVE USER IT EXPERT | 5 | GRADE | IST05 |
| (19) | Q319C | LEGISLATIVE DATA SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE | IST05 |
| (20) | Q320C | LEGISLATIVE MEDIA ENGINEER | 1 | GRADE | IST04 |
| (21) | Q272C | LEGISLATIVE ECONOMIST | 2 | GRADE | SPC08 |
| (22) | Q321C | LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY III | 23 | GRADE | SPC08 |
| (23) | Q322C | LEGISLATIVE EDITOR COORDINATOR | 1 | GRADE | SPC06 |
| (24) | Q323C | LEGISLATIVE STATE BUDGET EXPERT | 10 | GRADE | SPC06 |
| (25) | Q324C | LEGISLATIVE STATE PERSONNEL EXPERT | 5 | GRADE | SPC06 |
| (26) | Q325C | LEGISLATIVE EDITOR LEAD | 7 | GRADE | SPC04 |
| (27) | Q326C | LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH LEAD | 7 | GRADE | SPC04 |
| (28) | Q327C | LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE LEAD | 10 | GRADE | SGS10 |
| (29) | Q328C | LEGISLATIVE ADMIN SERVICES SR. ANALYST | 3 | GRADE | SGS09 |
| (30) | Q329C | LEGISLATIVE HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST | 1 | GRADE | SGS08 |
| (31) | Q330C | LEGISLATIVE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | 1 | GRADE | SGS08 |
| (32) | Q331C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASST III | 4 | GRADE | SGS06 |
| (33) | Q110C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASST II | 8 | GRADE | SGS05 |
| (34) | Q332C | LEGISLATIVE INVENTORY/FACILITIES SPEC | 1 | GRADE | SGS04 |
| (35) | Q128C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT | 16 | GRADE | SGS04 |
| (36) | Q333C | LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE | SGS03 |
| (37) | Q065C | OFFICE SERVICES SUPERVISOR | <u>1</u> | GRADE | SGS06 |
| | | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 134 | | |

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council for the 2025-2026 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: thirty-one (31) 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 - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, contingency, committee rooms, and construction and capital improvements of the Bureau of Legislative Research and the Legislative Council for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|---------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$11,860,244 |
| (02) EXTRA HELP | 150,000 |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 3,827,527 |
| (04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 2,083,686 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 218,002 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 298,889 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 400,000 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (05) CONSTRUCTION/CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS | 50,000 |
| (06) CONTINGENCY | 3,393,480 |
| (07) COMMITTEE ROOMS | <u>205,063</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$22,486,891</u> |

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY EXPENSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council Disbursing Officer, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for study expenses of the Committees of the Arkansas General Assembly

for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) INTERIM COMMITTEE STUDY EXPENSES | <u>\$271,060</u> |

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - INTERIM COMMITTEE EXPENSES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Bureau of Legislative Research of the Legislative Council Disbursing Officer, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for paying per diem, expenses and mileage to members of the Arkansas General Assembly attending regular and special meetings and other committee related activities of the Committees of the Arkansas General Assembly for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|--|--------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2025-2026</u> |
| (01) PER DIEM, EXPENSES, AND MILEAGE FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES | <u>\$1,449,199</u> |

SECTION 6. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW.

CLASSIFICATION UTILIZATION. The Bureau of Legislative Research may utilize, at the discretion of the Director of the Bureau of Legislative Research, the following classifications as necessary. The use of these classifications shall not be considered as increasing the number of positions authorized in this act, only as a temporary reclassification or cross grade of a position.

| <u>CLASS</u> | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| <u>CODE</u> | <u>TITLE</u> | <u>GRADE</u> |
| <u>Q334C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY IV</u> | <u>SPC09</u> |
| <u>Q335C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY II</u> | <u>SPC05</u> |
| <u>Q336C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE BUDGET SENIOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC05</u> |
| <u>Q337C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE PERSONNEL SENIOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC05</u> |
| <u>Q338C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE BUDGET ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC04</u> |
| <u>Q339C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE PERSONNEL ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC04</u> |

| | | |
|--------------|---|--------------|
| <u>Q340C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE ATTORNEY I</u> | <u>SPC03</u> |
| <u>Q341C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE EDITOR SENIOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC02</u> |
| <u>Q342C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SENIOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC02</u> |
| <u>Q343C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE EDITOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC01</u> |
| <u>Q344C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE BUDGET SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SPC01</u> |
| <u>Q345C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE STATE PERSONNEL SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SPC01</u> |
| <u>Q346C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH ANALYST</u> | <u>SPC01</u> |
| <u>Q347C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SENIOR ANALYST</u> | <u>SGS08</u> |
| <u>Q348C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE HUMAN RESOURCES SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SGS07</u> |
| <u>Q349C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE EDITOR SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SGS06</u> |
| <u>Q350C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ANALYST</u> | <u>SGS06</u> |
| <u>Q364C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SGS06</u> |
| <u>Q365C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES SPEC</u> | <u>SGS05</u> |
| <u>Q353C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SPECIALIST</u> | <u>SGS05</u> |
| <u>Q354C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE IT INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEER</u> | <u>IST10</u> |
| <u>Q355C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS COORDINATOR</u> | <u>IST10</u> |
| <u>Q356C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE IT INFRASTRUCTURE TECHNICIAN</u> | <u>IST08</u> |
| <u>Q357C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER II</u> | <u>IST08</u> |
| <u>Q358C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER I</u> | <u>IST07</u> |
| <u>Q359C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE PROJECT ANALYST</u> | <u>IST07</u> |
| <u>Q360C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE IT INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALIST</u> | <u>IST06</u> |
| <u>Q361C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE USER SUPPORT LEAD</u> | <u>IST04</u> |
| <u>Q362C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE USER SUPPORT TECHNICIAN</u> | <u>IST03</u> |
| <u>Q363C</u> | <u>LEGISLATIVE USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST</u> | <u>IST02</u> |

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

SECTION 7. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 10-3-303, concerning the Bureau of Legislative Research, is amended to add additional subsections to read as follows:

(i) The director may direct the Chief Fiscal Officer of the state to transfer appropriation between the following in such amounts as are determined to be necessary:

(1) The line items within appropriations pertaining to the bureau;
and

(2) The appropriations made by the operative appropriation act for the bureau; and

(3) The appropriations for the Bureau to any other Constitutional Officer.

SECTION 8. 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 9. 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 10. 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, 2025 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, 2025 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, 2025.

/s/Joint Budget Committee

APPROVED: 4/18/25