

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 148 of the Fiscal Session

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

As Engrossed: S4/27/26

A Bill

SENATE BILL 15

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 PARKS,
HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND TOURISM
DIVISIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS,
HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND
TOURISM DIVISIONS APPROPRIATION FOR THE
2026-2027 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 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism
Divisions for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of
regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual
				Salary Rate Fiscal Year
				2026-2027
(1)	EEX27A	PARKS, HERITAGE, & TOURISM DIV. DIR	2	GRADE EXE01
(2)	EEX26A	PARKS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC10
(3)	SEN02P	ENGINEER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC06
(4)	SAS01I	ARCHITECT	1	GRADE SPC03



(5)	SEN01P ENGINEER	1	GRADE SPC03
(6)	RMA03I CURATOR	4	GRADE SPC01
(7)	RPA08C PARK ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE SGS12
(8)	RPA09C PARK AREA MANAGER	5	GRADE SGS11
(9)	RPA13C PARK MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS11
(10)	RPA20C PARK SUPERINTENDENT IV	6	GRADE SGS10
(11)	EEPO6P EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS10
(12)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
(13)	RPA04C LODGE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS09
(14)	RPA19C PARK SUPERINTENDENT III	22	GRADE SGS09
(15)	RPA18C PARK SUPERINTENDENT II	38	GRADE SGS08
(16)	RPA25P ADPHT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS08
(17)	TCO04P CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS08
(18)	RPA01C ASSISTANT LODGE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS07
(19)	TFM02C FACILITY MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS07
(20)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(21)	CME03P GRAPHIC ARTIST	4	GRADE SGS07
(22)	TST02P LICENSED TRADESMAN	3	GRADE SGS07
(23)	RPA15P PARK PLANNER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(24)	CME06P PRODUCER	1	GRADE SGS07
(25)	PAS04C ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE SGS06
(26)	RRE01C FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS06
(27)	RPA17C PARK SUPERINTENDENT I	13	GRADE SGS06
(28)	RTO02C WELCOME CENTER MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS06
(29)	ILPO4I REAL ESTATE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS06
(30)	RMA02P ARCHIVIST	1	GRADE SGS06
(31)	FGM04P GRANTS SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06
(32)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	13	GRADE SGS06
(33)	TAT06P MECHANIC	1	GRADE SGS06
(34)	RPA14P PARK PLANNER	6	GRADE SGS06
(35)	RPA24P ADPHT PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE SGS06
(36)	TST04P SKILLED TRADESMAN	18	GRADE SGS06
(37)	TFS04C FOOD SERVICES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	5	GRADE SGS05
(38)	TAT03I ENGINEERING SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS05
(39)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	13	GRADE SGS05
(40)	TFM03P FACILITY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	15	GRADE SGS05

(41)	RPA05P LODGE SALES COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS05
(42)	TMA01P MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	11	GRADE SGS05
(43)	CMA01P MARKETING COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS05
(44)	RPA10P PARK COORDINATOR	6	GRADE SGS05
(45)	RPA21P PARK SUPERINTENDENT TRAINEE	3	GRADE SGS05
(46)	RPA23P ADPHT INTERPRETER II	42	GRADE SGS05
(47)	TAT05I HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	3	GRADE SGS04
(48)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	52	GRADE SGS04
(49)	TFM01P FACILITY COORDINATOR	28	GRADE SGS04
(50)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	9	GRADE SGS04
(51)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS04
(52)	IIN01P INSPECTOR I	3	GRADE SGS04
(53)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	42	GRADE SGS04
(54)	TAT08P PRINTER	1	GRADE SGS04
(55)	RRE02P RESTAURANT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	6	GRADE SGS04
(56)	TST07P TRADES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
(57)	RTO03P WELCOME CENTER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	14	GRADE SGS04
(58)	TFS05P KITCHEN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS03
(59)	RPA06P LODGE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS03
(60)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	88	GRADE SGS03
(61)	RPA12P PARK HOUSEKEEPER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	13	GRADE SGS03
(62)	SSE01P SECURITY GUARD	1	GRADE SGS03
(63)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	10	GRADE SGS02
(64)	TGR01P LANDSCAPE COORDINATOR	12	GRADE SGS02
(65)	RMA11P MUSEUM SPECIALIST	6	GRADE SGS02
(66)	RPA11P PARK HOUSEKEEPER	18	GRADE SGS02
(67)	RPA16P PARK SPECIALIST	33	GRADE SGS02
(68)	RTO01P TRAVEL CONSULTANT	32	GRADE SGS02
(69)	TFS01P COOK	22	GRADE SGS01
(70)	RRE03P SERVER	12	GRADE SGS01
(71)	SPL01C PARK LIEUTENANT COLONEL	1	GRADE LES07
(72)	SPL02C PARK MAJOR	1	GRADE LES06
(73)	SPL04C PARK SERGEANT	5	GRADE LES04
(74)	SPL03P PARK RANGER	30	GRADE LES03
(75)	TCO01P CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
(76)	TST05P SKILLED TRADESMAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07

(77) CME04P MEDIA SPECIALIST	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS05
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	732	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions for the 2026-2027 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 hundred seven (807) 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 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Parks and Tourism Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$12,569,422
(02) EXTRA HELP	2,500
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	5,483,877
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	0
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) TOURISM/MUSEUM GRANTS	30,000
(06) CONFERENCE-DAC	<u>100</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$18,085,899</u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - RETIREMENT AND RELOCATION PROMOTION PROGRAM.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for operating and advertising expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Retirement and Relocation Promotion Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR <u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$60,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	10,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	<u>898,619</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$968,619</u></u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism Fund Account, from proceeds derived from the Conservation Tax levied by Amendment 75 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Conservation Tax Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR <u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$7,707,277
(02) EXTRA HELP	2,134,077
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	3,359,215
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	16,394,284
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	613,894
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	3,500,000

(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) CONSTRUCTION	45,874,272
(06) SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	<u>4,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$83,583,019</u>

SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item	Class	Maximum	Maximum Annual
No.	Code Title	No. of	Salary Rate
		Employees	Fiscal Year
			2026-2027
(1)	RPA25P ADPHT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
(2)	RPA24P ADPHT PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS06
(3)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS03
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	3	

SECTION 7. EXTRA HELP - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations for the 2026-2027 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 (1) temporary or part-time employee, 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 8. APPROPRIATION - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account, from proceeds derived from the Conservation Tax levied by Amendment 75 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State

Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$138,924
(02) EXTRA HELP	6,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	55,401
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	88,937
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	125,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) KAB GRANTS	40,000
(06) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	<u>600,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,059,262</u></u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - MUSEUM OF NATURAL RESOURCES - SPECIAL REVENUE FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund, for personal services of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Museum of Natural Resources - Special Revenue Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$76,932
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<u>33,736</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$110,668</u></u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - TOURISM PROMOTION - SPECIAL REVENUE FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks,

Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Tourism Promotion
- Special Revenue Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$283,677
(02) EXTRA HELP	27,502
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	123,625
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	3,222,977
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	41,570
(C) PROF. FEES	2,246,280
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	125,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) TOURIST PROMOTION	2,922,000
(06) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	24,260,050
(07) SMALL FESTIVAL EXPENSES, ADVERTISING & GRANTS	<u>150,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$33,402,681</u>

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grants Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, and outdoor recreation grants of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Outdoor Recreation Grants Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$166,707
(02) EXTRA HELP	25,210
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	72,789
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	37,020

(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS	<u>9,716,374</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$10,023,100</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - SCORP PROGRAM - FEDERAL FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses and outdoor recreation grants of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$34,232
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,100
(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS	<u>8,308,402</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,448,734</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - PARKS - CASH FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, 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 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Parks - Cash Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

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

(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$9,769,812
(02)	EXTRA HELP	6,565,923
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	4,520,499
(04)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	11,566,526
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	34,000
	(C) PROF. FEES	2,000,000
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	500,000
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05)	CONSTRUCTION	500,000
(06)	RESALE (COGS)	5,564,961
(07)	DEBT SERVICE	0
(08)	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	<u>486,177</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$41,507,898</u></u>

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses, major maintenance, renovation of facilities and scoreboards, and repairs of War Memorial Stadium of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$304,119
(02)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	118,893
(03)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	12,198
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
	(C) PROF. FEES	0
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$435,210</u></u>

SECTION 15. EXTRA HELP - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM - CASH FUND OPERATIONS.

There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - War Memorial Stadium - Cash Fund Operations for the 2026-2027 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 forty-four (144) 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 16. APPROPRIATION - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM - CASH FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, 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 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - War Memorial Stadium - Cash Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$82,348
(02) EXTRA HELP	144,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	47,715
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	921,088
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) RESALE (COGS)	213,000
(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>100,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,508,151</u></u>

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - DELTA HERITAGE TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, 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 Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Delta Heritage Trail Construction Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) CONSTRUCTION	<u>\$37,880,862</u>

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for miscellaneous grants and expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Arkansas Wine Producers Council for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL	<u>\$5,000</u>

SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for land acquisition, construction, lease, equipment acquisition, improvements, renovation, major maintenance, personal services, maintenance and operating expenses associated with the wine tourism facility in Franklin County, Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY EXPENSES	<u>\$1,250,000</u>

SECTION 20. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SPECIAL MAINTENANCE. The funds appropriated in the Conservation Tax Operations

appropriation section of this act for the Division of Arkansas State Parks Special Maintenance shall be expended, after receiving prior approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, for a special maintenance program for the Park System. The funds provided will be used for repair and upkeep of parks and museum facilities that have been deferred due to lack of funds in the individual budgets of the parks and museums.

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 Division of Arkansas State Parks may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism 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 or the Special Maintenance line item. 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 and the Special Maintenance line item in the Conservation Tax Operations appropriation section is void.

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

SECTION 21. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CASH PRIZES - STATE PARKS. The Division of Arkansas State Parks is hereby authorized to award merchandise, gift certificates, and cash prizes to contestants in various special events authorized by the Division Director of the Division of Arkansas State Parks. Such prizes may be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners and shall be payable from the maintenance and operation line item of the Parks - Cash Fund Operations appropriation section. The cash prizes, in aggregate, for all contests, shall not exceed

\$10,000 per fiscal year.

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

SECTION 22. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. MISSISSIPPI RIVER DOMESTIC - INTERNATIONAL MARKETING PLAN. Of the funds appropriated to the Division of Arkansas Tourism - Great River Road for operating expenses in the State Operations appropriation section of this act, up to \$15,000 each year is authorized to be utilized for the implementation of the Mississippi River Domestic - International Marketing Plan.

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

SECTION 23. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SMALL FESTIVAL FUNDING. The General Assembly acknowledges the economic benefits of festivals which attract visitors and stimulate the growth of tourism and businesses statewide.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to the contrary, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall dedicate, commit, and budget annually one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) from the 2% tourism tax credited to the Tourism Development Trust Fund for expense, advertising, marketing, or grants for small festivals in Arkansas communities of less than 10,500 people. Any funds not granted out in a fiscal year shall be available for other tourism promotion efforts.

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

SECTION 24. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. EXTRA HELP. The Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism may utilize their authorized extra-help positions and contract labor event staff up to a maximum of one thousand eight hundred (1,800) hours during seasonal events at War Memorial Stadium. The rates of pay may not exceed those provided in the

Uniform Classification Act, or its successor, for the appropriate classification.

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

SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. PROMOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. The Division of Arkansas State Parks and Tourism is hereby authorized to purchase from Maintenance and General Operations appropriations provided by this Act, up to an amount not to exceed \$75,000 each fiscal year, promotional and educational merchandise, authorized by the Secretary of the Department of Arkansas Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to inform the public of the Division's programs, to promote the functions of the Division, and to inform the public regarding services provided by the Division.

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

SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW.

Abolition of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission.

(a) The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is abolished, and its authority, duties, function, records, contracts, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds, including the functions of budgeting or purchasing are transferred to the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

(b)(1) The administrative functions of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission are transferred to the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful.

(2) As used in subdivision (b)(1) of this section, "administrative functions" includes without limitation the day-to-day business operations of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, including without limitation employment, payroll, property management, benefit management, human resource operations, and accounting operations of the commission.

(c)(1) The abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission does not affect the orders, rules, directives, registration, licensing, or

standards made or promulgated by the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission before the effective date of this act.

(2) The orders, rules, directives, registration, licensing, or standards under subdivision (c)(1) of this section shall continue to be in effect until amended or repealed under authority given by law.

(d)(1) An employee of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission who is now a member of a retirement system shall not lose retirement benefits accrued in the retirement system by the abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission.

(2)(A) An employee affected by the abolition of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission shall have the option of continuing as a member of the retirement system of which the employee is a member at the time of the abolition or to join the retirement system for which the abolition makes the employee eligible.

(B) An employee under subdivision (d)(2)(A) of this section shall make his or her election of a retirement system within six (6) months from the date of abolition.

SECTION 27. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-404(2), concerning fines collected under the Litter Control Act, is amended to read as follows:

(2) If the municipality or county where the offense occurs is not a certified affiliate of Keep Arkansas Beautiful or Keep America Beautiful, ~~Inc.~~, or does not participate in litter-control programs conducted by these organizations, then the moneys from fines collected for offenses in those jurisdictions shall be remitted by the tenth day of each month to the Administration of Justice Funds Section, on a form provided by the Office of Administrative Services of the Department of Finance and Administration, for deposit into the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account to be used by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, as appropriated by the General Assembly, for the purposes of encouraging litter prevention and anti-litter education and increasing awareness of litter law enforcement statewide.

SECTION 28. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-606(e), concerning landfill disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

(e) Solid waste collected during the annual Keep Arkansas Beautiful

and Keep America Beautiful campaigns that are sponsored by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is exempt from the landfill disposal fee under this section.

SECTION 29. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 8-6-1003(c), concerning landfill disposal fees, is amended to read as follows:

(c) Solid waste collected during the annual Keep Arkansas Beautiful and Keep America Beautiful campaigns that are sponsored by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission is exempt from the landfill disposal fee under this section.

SECTION 30. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-601 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-601. Keep Arkansas Beautiful Advisory Board – Creation – Membership.

(a)(1) There is created the “Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission Advisory Board”, which shall advise the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful, to be composed of ~~nine (9)~~ five (5) members appointed by the ~~Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate~~ Director of State Highways and Transportation.

(2) ~~Two (2) members~~ One (1) member shall be appointed from each Arkansas congressional district and the remaining member shall be appointed from the state at large.

(b)(1) The term of office of the initial members of the ~~commission~~ board shall be determined by lot as follows:

(A) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members shall expire on ~~January 14, 2003~~ June 30, 2027;

(B) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members shall expire on ~~January 14, 2002~~ June 30, 2028;

(C) The term of office of ~~two (2)~~ one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 2001~~ June 30, 2029;

(D) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 2000~~ June 30, 2030; and

(E) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members of the ~~commission~~ board shall expire on ~~January 14, 1999~~ June 30, 2031; and

~~(F) The term of office of one (1) of the initial members~~

~~of the commission shall expire on January 14, 1998.~~

(2) All successor members, other than those appointed to fill unexpired terms, shall serve ~~six-year~~ five-year terms to expire on ~~January 14 June 30~~ of the ~~sixth~~ fifth year.

(c) All vacancies shall be filled by appointment by the ~~Governor and each appointment shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate~~ director.

(d)(1) The ~~Governor~~ director shall designate the member to chair the organizational meeting of the ~~commission~~ board, at which meeting the ~~commission~~ board shall select from its membership a chair, a vice chair, and such other officers as it determines appropriate.

(2) The officers shall serve as such for such period of time as determined by the ~~commission~~ board.

(e) ~~Before entering upon his or her duties as a member of the commission, each member shall take and subscribe and file in the office of the Secretary of State an oath to support the United States Constitution and the Arkansas Constitution and to perform faithfully the duties of the office upon which he or she is about to enter.~~

(f) Members of the ~~commission~~ board shall serve without compensation for their service but may receive expense reimbursement ~~and a stipend of eighty five dollars (\$85.00) per day in accordance with § 25-16-901 et seq.~~

(g)(f) The ~~Director~~ Administrator of the ~~Administrative~~ Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall serve as ex officio ~~Secretary~~ secretary of the ~~Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ board and shall have no vote on matters coming before the ~~commission~~ board.

SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW.

Transition provisions – Commission members.

Upon the effective date of this section:

(1) The members of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission shall serve as members of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Advisory Board;

(2) A member under subdivision (1) of this section shall serve until his or her term expires; and

(3) Upon the expiration of the term of a member under subdivision (1) of this section, the Director of State Highways and Transportation shall appoint a new member as provided under § 15-11-601.

SECTION 32. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-602 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-602. ~~Administrative office~~ Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful – Director – Duties Creation.

(a) ~~The Administrative~~ There is established the Office of ~~the~~ Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission shall to~~ be located within the ~~State Parks Division~~ Arkansas Department of Transportation.

(b) The ~~Director~~ Administrator of the ~~Administrative~~ Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall be employed by the Director of ~~the State Parks Division with the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism~~ State Highways and Transportation.

(c) The ~~Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ administrator shall develop and administer all programs and projects of the ~~Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission~~ office and perform such other duties that the ~~Director of the State Parks Division~~ director deems necessary and appropriate to foster and promote the awareness of all Arkansans as to the need to protect Arkansas's natural environment.

SECTION 33. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 15-11-603 is amended to read as follows:

15-11-603. Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful – Powers and duties of ~~commission.~~

The Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ shall:

(1) Be ~~an official agency of the State of Arkansas~~ authorized to accept and receive grants, moneys, equipment, material, and services and real and personal property donated, bequeathed, or devised for any purposes relating to the programs of the ~~commission~~ office and not expressly designated for any other agency and to disburse and utilize such moneys and property for the purposes of this subchapter;

(2) Implement a statewide litter prevention program through the voluntary action of local communities and state and local governmental agencies;

(3) Educate Arkansas's citizens and community leaders as to the problem of litter and the need for recycling the state's resources;

(4) Encourage litter prevention;

- (5) Encourage beautification projects;
- (6) Increase awareness of litter law enforcement;
- (7) Promote consumer awareness of recycling benefits;
- (8) Assist communities in establishing the Keep Arkansas Beautiful system;
- (9) Encourage educational programs in schools and elsewhere that support the goals of the ~~commission~~ office; and
- (10) ~~Serve in an advisory capacity to the Director of the Administrative Office of the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission and the State Parks Division; and~~
- ~~(11)~~ Cooperate with and support existing recycling, beautification, and litter control programs in the state.

SECTION 34. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 19-43-266(b)(3)(D)(i), concerning the Conservation Tax Fund, is amended to read as follows:

(D)(i) One percent (1%) to the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account to be used exclusively by the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful ~~Commission~~ as appropriated by the General Assembly.

SECTION 35. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 24-5-101(6), concerning the definition of "current service" under the Arkansas State Highway Employees' Retirement System, is amended to read as follows:

(6)(A) "Current service" means service as an employee of the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department or the Arkansas Department of Transportation after the date of establishment of the system and may include the period of time during which the employee's service may have been interrupted by service in the United States Armed Forces. The annual earnings for a military service period shall be computed in the manner set forth for prior service in subdivision (12) of this section~~+~~.

(B) "Current service" includes service as an employee of the Office of Keep Arkansas Beautiful after the effective date of this act;

SECTION 36. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 25-43-1302(a)(17), concerning state entities transferred to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, is repealed.

~~(17) The Keep Arkansas Beautiful Commission, created under § 15-11-601;~~

SECTION 37. 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 38. 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 39. 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, 2026 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, 2026 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, 2026.

/s/ Joint Budget Committee

APPROVED: 5/1/26