

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 163 of the Fiscal Session

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

As Engrossed: H4/21/26 H4/27/26

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1036

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 HEALTH
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 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 Health - Shared Services for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
			No. of Employees	Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(1)	ESE07A	SECRETARY OF HEALTH	<u>1</u>	GRADE EXE04
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - SHARED SERVICES. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Health 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: seven (7) 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 Health, 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 Health - Shared Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$225,306
(02) EXTRA HELP	132,867
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	67,328
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	0
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$425,501</u></u>

SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Health for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item Class	Maximum No. of Employees	Maximum Annual Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
No. Code Title		
(1) EEX21A HEALTH DEPUTY DIRECTOR	3	GRADE EXE02
(2) EEX10A CHIEF OF STAFF II	1	GRADE EXE02
(3) FAC09C CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER II	1	GRADE SPC10
(4) LAT08C CHIEF LEGAL COUNSEL I	1	GRADE SPC10

(5)	MHS03C STATE HEALTH SCIENTIST	2	GRADE SPC10
(6)	PHP06C HEALTH PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	7	GRADE SPC09
(7)	LAT01C ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE	2	GRADE SPC08
(8)	HDH03C HR ADMINISTRATOR II	1	GRADE SPC08
(9)	LAT05P ATTORNEY III	3	GRADE SPC08
(10)	CPR02C CHIEF OF COMMUNICATIONS II	1	GRADE SPC07
(11)	SEN04C MANAGING ENGINEER	2	GRADE SPC07
(12)	FAC10C CONTROLLER	1	GRADE SPC06
(13)	SEP02C EPIDEMIOLOGY MANAGER	11	GRADE SPC06
(14)	PHP04C HEALTH CENTER MANAGER	9	GRADE SPC06
(15)	SEN02P ENGINEER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	7	GRADE SPC06
(16)	CPR03C GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SPC05
(17)	PHS06C HEALTH PROGRAM MANAGER	17	GRADE SPC05
(18)	LAT04P ATTORNEY II	1	GRADE SPC05
(19)	SEP03P EPIDEMIOLOGY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	10	GRADE SPC05
(20)	SEN05P PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER	5	GRADE SPC05
(21)	PHP03C HEALTH BRANCH MANAGER	16	GRADE SPC04
(22)	FAC05P ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SPC04
(23)	SEP01P EPIDEMIOLOGIST	39	GRADE SPC04
(24)	MHS02P RADIOLOGICAL PROGRAM SUPV/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC04
(25)	PHP05C HEALTH DISTRICT MANAGER	7	GRADE SPC03
(26)	PHP09C PUBLIC HEALTH SECTION CHIEF	19	GRADE SPC03
(27)	SEN01P ENGINEER	11	GRADE SPC03
(28)	SLA03P LABORATORY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	14	GRADE SPC03
(29)	SGE05P PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST	2	GRADE SPC03
(30)	PHS02I CERTIFIED TUMOR REGISTRAR	1	GRADE SPC02
(31)	FAC02P ACCOUNTANT II	8	GRADE SPC02
(32)	FAU04P AUDITOR II	2	GRADE SPC02
(33)	SBI02P BIOLOGIST II	29	GRADE SPC02
(34)	SCH02P CHEMIST II	15	GRADE SPC02
(35)	SPH02P PHYSICIST SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC02
(36)	MHS01P RADIOLOGICAL PROGRAM SPECIALIST	4	GRADE SPC02
(37)	FAC01P ACCOUNTANT I	4	GRADE SPC01
(38)	SBI01P BIOLOGIST I	25	GRADE SPC01
(39)	SCH01P CHEMIST I	13	GRADE SPC01
(40)	SPH01P PHYSICIST	7	GRADE SPC01

(41)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	4	GRADE SGS09
(42)	PHS09C HEALTH UNIT ADMINISTRATOR	17	GRADE SGS09
(43)	PQA02C QUALITY ASSURANCE MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS09
(44)	IEH03P ENVIRON. HEALTH INSP. SUPV/EXPERT	6	GRADE SGS09
(45)	FBU02C BUDGET MANAGER	12	GRADE SGS08
(46)	IEH02P ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTOR II	26	GRADE SGS08
(47)	PHS08P HEALTH PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	48	GRADE SGS08
(48)	PHS10P HEALTH UNIT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	20	GRADE SGS08
(49)	HDH08P HR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	4	GRADE SGS08
(50)	PPR05P PROCUREMENT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
(51)	FGM03C GRANTS MANAGER	5	GRADE SGS07
(52)	PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	3	GRADE SGS07
(53)	FBU01P BUDGET ANALYST	24	GRADE SGS07
(54)	PDA01P DATA/RESEARCH ANALYST	4	GRADE SGS07
(55)	IEH01P ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INSPECTOR I	118	GRADE SGS07
(56)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	5	GRADE SGS07
(57)	CME03P GRAPHIC ARTIST	1	GRADE SGS07
(58)	PHS05P HEALTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR	87	GRADE SGS07
(59)	HDH05P HR COORDINATOR	15	GRADE SGS07
(60)	IIN05P INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(61)	CPR05P PUBLIC INFORMATION COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS07
(62)	PQA01P QUALITY ASSURANCE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
(63)	TST05P SKILLED TRADESMAN SUPV/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(64)	SCM12P SUICIDE PREVENTION SUPV/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS07
(65)	CTR02P TRAINER	6	GRADE SGS07
(66)	ILS03I LEGAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06
(67)	PHS03P CONSUMER SCIENCE SPECIALIST	28	GRADE SGS06
(68)	SIA13P DISPATCHER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06
(69)	EEP05P EDUCATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS06
(70)	FFS02P FISCAL SUPPORT COORDINATOR	4	GRADE SGS06
(71)	PHS07P HEALTH PROGRAM SPECIALIST	104	GRADE SGS06
(72)	IIN03P INSPECTOR III	13	GRADE SGS06
(73)	SLA04P LABORATORY TECHNICIAN I	14	GRADE SGS06
(74)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06
(75)	CPR07P PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06
(76)	PQA03P QUALITY ASSURANCE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS06

(77)	TST04P SKILLED TRADESMAN	6	GRADE SGS06
(78)	SSP16P SOCIAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS06
(79)	SCM11P SUICIDE PREVENTION SPECIALIST	7	GRADE SGS06
(80)	TAT03I ENGINEERING SPECIALIST	8	GRADE SGS05
(81)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	372	GRADE SGS05
(82)	FBU03P BUDGET SPECIALIST	10	GRADE SGS05
(83)	SIA12P DISPATCHER	6	GRADE SGS05
(84)	FGM02P GRANTS COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS05
(85)	PHS04P HEALTH EDUCATOR	7	GRADE SGS05
(86)	IIN02P INSPECTOR II	6	GRADE SGS05
(87)	TIW04P INVENTORY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS05
(88)	FFS06P MEDICAL BILLING SPECIALIST	10	GRADE SGS05
(89)	PPR04P PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST	5	GRADE SGS05
(90)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	1	GRADE SGS05
(91)	THT03I LACTATION SPECIALIST	12	GRADE SGS04
(92)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	95	GRADE SGS04
(93)	HBE01P BENEFITS ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS04
(94)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	36	GRADE SGS04
(95)	FGM01P GRANTS ANALYST	6	GRADE SGS04
(96)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	7	GRADE SGS04
(97)	IIN01P INSPECTOR I	6	GRADE SGS04
(98)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS04
(99)	TST07P TRADES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
(100)	TIW03P INVENTORY SPECIALIST	21	GRADE SGS03
(101)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	3	GRADE SGS03
(102)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	43	GRADE SGS02
(103)	PRC01P HEALTH AIDE	5	GRADE SGS01
(104)	MHA04C STATE HEALTH DIRECTOR	1	GRADE MED16
(105)	MPH04P PHYSICIAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE MED14
(106)	MPH02P PHYSICIAN SPECIALIST	3	GRADE MED12
(107)	MPA04C PHARMACY MANAGER	1	GRADE MED10
(108)	MDE01I DENTIST	1	GRADE MED09
(109)	MPA01P PHARMACIST	4	GRADE MED09
(110)	MPA03P PHARMACY INSPECTOR	2	GRADE MED09
(111)	MNU05C NURSING ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE MED08
(112)	MNU04P NURSE PRACTITIONER	32	GRADE MED08

(113)	MVE02P VETERINARIAN	1	GRADE MED08
(114)	MNU07C REGISTERED NURSE MANAGER	10	GRADE MED07
(115)	MDI02P DIETICIAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	8	GRADE MED06
(116)	MNU03P NURSE INSTRUCTOR	1	GRADE MED06
(117)	MNU08P REG. NURSE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	36	GRADE MED06
(118)	MDI03P REGISTERED DIETICIAN	9	GRADE MED05
(119)	MNU06P REGISTERED NURSE	317	GRADE MED05
(120)	MDI01P DIETICIAN	20	GRADE MED03
(121)	PHS01P CERTIFIED HEALTH EDUCATOR	2	GRADE MED02
(122)	MNU01P LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE	57	GRADE MED02
(123)	IIA02C CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER II	1	GRADE IST12
(124)	IIS08C IT INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER	3	GRADE IST11
(125)	IIS10C IT INFRASTRUCTURE SUPV/EXPERT	4	GRADE IST10
(126)	IIS06P IT INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATOR	6	GRADE IST08
(127)	IIE06P IT SECURITY SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE IST08
(128)	IAS01P APPLICATIONS ANALYST I	5	GRADE IST07
(129)	IDN01P DATA ANALYST	4	GRADE IST07
(130)	IDM02P DATABASE ANALYST	2	GRADE IST07
(131)	IAS04P APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER I	1	GRADE IST06
(132)	IIS04P IT INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYST	21	GRADE IST06
(133)	IIE02P IT SECURITY ANALYST I	1	GRADE IST06
(134)	IUS05P USER SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE IST06
(135)	IAS08I WEBSITE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IST05
(136)	IGI01P GIS ANALYST	3	GRADE IST05
(137)	IUS02P USER SUPPORT COORDINATOR	2	GRADE IST05
(138)	IIS09P IT INFRASTRUCTURE SPECIALIST	1	GRADE IST04
(139)	IUS01P USER SUPPORT ANALYST	34	GRADE IST04
(140)	IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST	16	GRADE IST02
(141)	HDH04P HR ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS06
(142)	IIP01P IT PROJECT COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST06
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	2,203	

SECTION 5. REGULAR SALARIES - TRAUMA SYSTEM. There is hereby established for the Department of Health - Trauma System for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Class Code	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
			No. of Employees	Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(1)	PHPO3C	HEALTH BRANCH MANAGER	1	GRADE SPC04
(2)	SEPO1P	EPIDEMIOLOGIST	1	GRADE SPC04
(3)	PHPO9C	PUBLIC HEALTH SECTION CHIEF	1	GRADE SPC03
(4)	FBU01P	BUDGET ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS07
(5)	PDA01P	DATA/RESEARCH ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS07
(6)	FGM02P	GRANTS COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS05
(7)	PHS04P	HEALTH EDUCATOR	1	GRADE SGS05
(8)	PAS02P	ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS04
(9)	FGM01P	GRANTS ANALYST	2	GRADE SGS04
(10)	PAS03P	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS02
(11)	MPH04P	PHYSICIAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE MED14
(12)	MNU08P	REG. NURSE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE MED06
(13)	MNU06P	REGISTERED NURSE	3	GRADE MED05
(14)	IIS06P	IT INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATOR	<u>1</u>	GRADE IST08
MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES			18	

SECTION 6. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Health - 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: two hundred twenty-two (222) 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 7. EXTRA HELP - TRAUMA SYSTEM. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Health - Trauma System 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: two (2) 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 8. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses, grants and aid, and refunds and reimbursements of the Department of Health for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$121,993,010
(02) EXTRA HELP	1,965,813
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	44,531,278
(04) OVERTIME	111,500
(05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	83,773,484
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	796,026
(C) PROF. FEES	13,625,581
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	1,138,925
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06) ADH GRANTS & AID	22,283,487
(07) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	7,613
(08) KIDNEY DISEASE PROGRAM	850,441
(09) BREAST CARE PROGRAM	8,039,563
(10) INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL	<u>30,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$329,116,721</u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - TRAUMA SYSTEM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the Public Health Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Health - Trauma System for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,098,207
(02) EXTRA HELP	75,000

(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	400,556
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	355,545
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	50,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) TRAUMA SYSTEM EXPENSES	<u>24,237,291</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$26,216,599</u></u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - HEALTH BUILDING AND LOCAL HEALTH GRANT TRUST. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the State Health Building and Local Grant Trust Fund, for acquisition, construction, and improvement of the State Health Building and grants to local health units for construction, expansion and renovation by the Department of Health - Health Building and Local Health Grant Trust for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) HEALTH BUILDING ACQUISITION, CONSTRUCTION & RENOVATION & GRANTS TO LOCAL HEALTH UNITS	<u>\$1,950,000</u>
(02) CONSTRUCTION	<u>7,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,950,000</u></u>

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the Emergency Medical Services Revolving Fund, for Emergency Medical Services operating expenses and grants to licensed Emergency Medical Services as provided by law by the Department of Health - Emergency Medical Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	

(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$60,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$60,000</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - WIC FOOD INSTRUMENTS - CASH. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the cash funds as defined by Arkansas Code 19-4-801, for Women, Infant, and Children's Food Instruments of the Department of Health - WIC Food Instruments - Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) WIC FOOD INSTRUMENTS	<u><u>\$60,000,000</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - INTERPRETERS FOR DEAF AND HEARING IMPAIRED. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf Fund, for expenses of the Advisory Board for Interpreters between Hearing Individuals and Individuals who are Deaf, Deafblind, Hard of Hearing, or Oral Deaf of the Department of Health for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) ADVISORY BOARD EXPENSES	<u><u>\$25,000</u></u>

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - FULL INDEPENDENT PRACTICE CREDENTIALING. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Health, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for the payment of personal services, operating expenses, and for the payment of mileage and per diem of committee members for attendance at meetings, briefings, and hearings of the Department of Health - Full Independent Practice Credentialing Committee for the fiscal

year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR <u>2026-2027</u>
(01) FULL INDEPENDENT PRACTICE CREDENTIALING COMMITTEE	<u>\$350,000</u>

SECTION 15. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. PARKING FEES. On July 1 of each year the Arkansas Department of Health shall pay \$50,000 from the Operations appropriation provided herein from non-general revenue to War Memorial.

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

SECTION 16. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION FUND TRANSFERS. Subject to such procedures as may be implemented by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the disbursing officer for the Arkansas Department of Health is hereby authorized to transfer funds to the Public Health Fund from other program funds of the agency in order to reimburse for expenditures incurred for those programs.

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

SECTION 17. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CARRY FORWARD OF FUNDS.

(a) Except as authorized in subsection (c) of this section, the Department of Health is authorized to carry forward any unspent funds remaining in the Public Health Fund on June 30, ~~2025~~ 2026 allocated for the support of the Trauma System to be used for the same purposes in the next fiscal year.

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

- (1) Prior to June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027, the agency shall by written

statement set forth its reason(s) for the need to carry forward said funding to the Office of Budget of the Department of Finance and Administration;

(2) The Office of Budget of the Department of Finance and Administration shall report to the Legislative Council all amounts carried forward by the September meeting of the Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee meeting which report shall include the name of the agency, board, commission, or institution and the amount of funding carried forward, the program name or line item, the funding source and a copy of the written request set forth in subdivision (b)(1) of this section;

(3) Each agency, board, commission, or institution shall provide a written report to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee containing all information set forth in subdivision (b)(2) of this section, along with a written statement as to the current status of the project, contract, purpose, etc., for which the carry forward was originally requested no later than thirty (30) days prior to the time the agency, board, commission, or institution presents its budget request to the Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, or both; and

(4) Thereupon, the Department of Finance and Administration shall include all information obtained in subdivision (b)(3) of this section in the budget manuals or a statement of non-compliance by the agency, board, commission, or institution, or both.

(c) The Department of Health is authorized to transfer up to three million seven hundred thousand dollars (\$3,700,000) in carry forward funds to be used in the next fiscal year at the discretion of the Director of the Department of Health to:

(1) Enhance and integrate an emergency management system to include trauma, stroke, and myocardial infarction; and

(2) Provide long acting reversible contraceptives through services provided by the Department of Health local health units.

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

SECTION 18. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. BREAST CARE PROGRAM. The Arkansas Department of Health shall annually budget, allocate, and expend for the Breast Care Program as appropriated in the

Operations Section in this Act, the sum of at least four million seven hundred fifty-five thousand dollars (\$4,755,000) for Breast Cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment and outreach expenses of the Breast Care Program.

The Arkansas Department of Health shall file an annual progress report by each January 1 preceding a session of the General Assembly to the Co-Chairs of the House and Senate Public Health Committee. This report shall include amounts budgeted, allocated and expended for the Breast Care Program for testing, diagnosis, treatment and outreach expenses.

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

SECTION 19. 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 a Shared Services paying accounts on his or her books and on the books of the Treasurer of State and the Auditor of State for the payment of personal services and operating expenses in the Shared Services Paying Account Appropriation by the Department of Health.

(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 appropriation acts authorized for the department.

(4) The provisions of this section shall be in effect from the date of passage through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 20. Arkansas Code § 5-27-205(c), concerning an affirmative defense to prosecution for the crime of endangering the welfare of a minor in the first degree, is amended to read as follows:

(c)(1) It is an affirmative defense to a prosecution under this section that a parent voluntarily delivered a child to and left the child with or in, or voluntarily arranged for another person to deliver a child to and leave the child with or in, a medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency

medical services provider, fire department, or a newborn safety device as provided in § 9-34-201 et seq.

(2)(A) Subdivision (c)(1) of this section does not create a defense to any prosecution arising from any conduct other than the act of delivering a child as described in subdivision (c)(1) of this section.

(B) Subdivision (c)(1) of this section specifically does not constitute a defense to any prosecution arising from an act of abuse or neglect committed before the delivery of a child to a medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, fire department, or a newborn safety device as provided in § 9-34-201 et seq.

SECTION 21. Arkansas Code § 9-34-201, concerning definitions regarding the voluntary delivery of a child to a medical provider, law enforcement agency, fire department, or newborn safety device, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(4) "Emergency medical services provider" means:

(A) An entity or individual licensed to provide emergency medical services, including without limitation an ambulance service provider; and

(B) That is staffed twenty-four (24) hours per day.

SECTION 22. Arkansas Code § 9-34-202 is amended to read as follows:

9-34-202. Delivery to medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, fire department, or in newborn safety device.

(a) Any medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department shall take possession of a child who is thirty (30) days old or younger without a court order if the parent of the child, without expressing an intent to return for the child, leaves the child:

(1) With or voluntarily delivers the child to the medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department, including without limitation when a parent leaves a newborn child with a medical provider staff member after delivery of the newborn child; or

(2) In a newborn safety device that is:

(A) Voluntarily installed by the medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department;

(B) Physically located on a structured wall of or inside a hospital, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider station, or fire department; and

(C) Located in an area that is conspicuous and visible to the employees of the hospital, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department.

(b)(1) A medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department that takes possession of a child under subsection (a) of this section shall perform any act necessary to protect the physical health and safety of the child.

(2) A medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department shall:

(A) Keep the identity of a parent who relinquishes a child under this section confidential; and

(B) Not release or otherwise make the identity of the parent available except to a:

(i) Law enforcement agency investigating abuse or neglect of the child that was committed before the child was delivered to the medical provider or, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider; or

(ii) Prosecuting attorney pursuing charges against a parent for abuse or neglect of the child that was committed before the child was delivered to the medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department.

(3)(A) If the identity of a parent or child is released or made known to the Department of Human Services in violation of subdivision (b)(2) of this section, the case shall proceed as a dependency-neglect action as defined under § 9-35-102, but with the same protections from liability as if an anonymous surrender was made under this section.

(B)(i) If the child is relinquished at a location defined in § 9-34-201, the parent shall not be held criminally liable for the relinquishment or have a true finding of maltreatment or abandonment entered against the parent if the parent's identity is known and the Department of Human Services proceeds under § 9-35-325.

(ii) The Department of Human Services shall not subsequently use a resulting termination of parental rights against a parent who surrendered his or her child under this section.

(c) A medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department shall:

(1) Not be held criminally or civilly liable for any good faith acts or omissions performed under this section; and

(2) Have an affirmative defense against any civil or criminal claim arising out of any act or omission performed under this section.

(d)(1) A medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department other than a volunteer fire department that voluntarily installs a newborn safety device shall:

(A) Be responsible for the cost of the installation; and

(B) Install an adequate dual alarm system connected to the physical location of the newborn safety device that is:

(i) Tested at least one (1) time per week to ensure the alarm system is in working order; and

(ii) Visually checked at least two (2) times per day to ensure the alarm system is in working order.

(2) A volunteer fire department may install a newborn safety device if:

(A) The volunteer fire department complies with subdivision (d)(1) of this section;

(B) The first responders at the volunteer fire department are able to respond to the placement of an infant in the newborn safety device within the shorter of the following:

(i) The response time established by the county in which the volunteer fire department is located; or

(ii) A time frame not to exceed four (4) minutes;

and

(C) The newborn safety device is:

(i) Located within one (1) mile of a medical provider or law enforcement agency; and

(ii) Equipped with:

(a) An alert system that, when the newborn safety device is opened, automatically connects to the 911 system and

transmits a request for immediate dispatch of an emergency medical services provider to the location of the newborn safety device; and

(b) A video surveillance system that allows members of the volunteer fire department to monitor the inside of the newborn safety device twenty-four (24) hours per day and that:

(1) Has at least two (2) firefighters who are responsible for monitoring the inside of the newborn safety device twenty-four (24) hours per day; and

(2) Is a surveillance system independent from the alert system described in subdivision (d)(2)(C)(ii)(a) of this section.

SECTION 23. Arkansas Code § 9-34-203(a), concerning the care and permanency plan of a child voluntarily delivered to a medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, fire department, or newborn safety device, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Upon delivery of the child to a medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, or fire department, the law enforcement officer, an appropriate employee of the fire department, an appropriate employee of the emergency medical services provider, or an appropriate employee of the hospital shall take the child into protective custody for seventy-two (72) hours under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.

SECTION 24. Arkansas Code § 9-34-203(b)(1), concerning the care and permanency plan of a child voluntarily delivered to a medical provider, law enforcement agency, emergency medical services provider, fire department, or newborn safety device, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The law enforcement officer, employee of the fire department, employee of the emergency medical services provider, or employee of the hospital shall immediately notify the Division of Children and Family Services, which shall initiate a dependency-neglect petition under the Arkansas Juvenile Code, § 9-35-101 et seq., and shall proceed under § 9-35-325.

SECTION 25. 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 26. 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 27. 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