

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1073

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 PUBLIC
SERVICE COMMISSION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE
30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-
2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - UTILITIES DIVISION. There is hereby established for the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Utilities Division 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) | EEX31A | PSC CHAIRMAN | 1 | GRADE EXE02 |
| (2) | EEX32A | PSC COMMISSIONER | 2 | GRADE EXE02 |
| (3) | EEX09A | CHIEF OF STAFF I | 1 | GRADE EXE01 |
| (4) | EEX33A | PSC DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE EXE01 |
| (5) | LAT06C | ATTORNEY IV | 2 | GRADE SPC09 |



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| (6) | LAT07C CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE | 1 | GRADE SPC09 |
| (7) | LAT01C ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE | 3 | GRADE SPC08 |
| (8) | PPU04C PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION DIRECTOR | 7 | GRADE SPC08 |
| (9) | LAT05P ATTORNEY III | 2 | GRADE SPC08 |
| (10) | LAT04P ATTORNEY II | 5 | GRADE SPC05 |
| (11) | SEN05P PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER | 2 | GRADE SPC05 |
| (12) | PPU03I PUBLIC SERVICE COMM SUPVR./EXP. | 2 | GRADE SPC04 |
| (13) | FRC02P PUBLIC SVC RATE CASE ANALYST II | 8 | GRADE SPC04 |
| (14) | FAC03P ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR | 1 | GRADE SPC03 |
| (15) | LAT03P ATTORNEY I | 1 | GRADE SPC03 |
| (16) | FRC01P PUBLIC SVC RATE CASE ANALYST I | 14 | GRADE SPC03 |
| (17) | FAU04P AUDITOR II | 9 | GRADE SPC02 |
| (18) | PAS08I EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT | 2 | GRADE SGS07 |
| (19) | HDH05P HR COORDINATOR | 1 | GRADE SGS07 |
| (20) | IIN05P INSPECTOR SUPERVISOR/EXPERT | 1 | GRADE SGS07 |
| (21) | PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST | 7 | GRADE SGS05 |
| (22) | PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR | 3 | GRADE SGS04 |
| (23) | FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST | 1 | GRADE SGS04 |
| (24) | IIV02P INVESTIGATOR I | 7 | GRADE SGS04 |
| (25) | IIS11P IT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT | 1 | GRADE IST09 |
| (26) | IIS04P IT INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYST | 2 | GRADE IST06 |
| (27) | IUS04P USER SUPPORT SPECIALIST | 2 | GRADE IST02 |
| (28) | FAC08C CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER I | 1 | GRADE SPC09 |
| (29) | FAU01C AUDIT MANAGER | <u>1</u> | GRADE SPC06 |
| | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 91 | |

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - UTILITIES DIVISION. There is hereby authorized, for the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Utilities Division 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: six (6) 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 - UTILITIES DIVISION. There is hereby

appropriated, to the Arkansas Public Service Commission, to be payable from the Public Service Commission Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Utilities Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM NO. | | FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 |
|----------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (01) | REGULAR SALARIES | \$6,811,557 |
| (02) | EXTRA HELP | 14,000 |
| (03) | PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 2,288,236 |
| (04) | OVERTIME | 5,000 |
| (05) | MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| | (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 1,070,597 |
| | (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 78,922 |
| | (C) PROF. FEES | 10,000 |
| | (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| | (E) DATA PROC. | 0 |
| (06) | BUILDING REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE | 24,319 |
| (07) | FED REGULATORY SERVICES | 290,575 |
| (08) | PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | 998,000 |
| (09) | DATA PROCESSING SERVICES | <u>138,856</u> |
| | TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$11,730,062</u></u> |

SECTION 4. REGULAR SALARIES - TAX DIVISION. There is hereby established for the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Tax Division 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) | PPU04C | PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE SPC08 |
| (2) | PPU03I | PUBLIC SERVICE COMM SUPVR./EXP. | 2 | GRADE SPC04 |
| (3) | FAU04P | AUDITOR II | 1 | GRADE SPC02 |
| (4) | FAU03P | AUDITOR I | 1 | GRADE SPC01 |
| (5) | FIN01P | FINANCE ANALYST | 2 | GRADE SPC01 |

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| (6) PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST | 1 | GRADE SGS05 |
| (7) PPU05I PUBLIC SERVICE VALUATION SPEC | <u>7</u> | GRADE SGS04 |
| MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 15 | |

SECTION 5. EXTRA HELP - TAX DIVISION. There is hereby authorized, for the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Tax Division 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: five (5) 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 - TAX DIVISION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Public Service Commission, to be payable from the Tax Division Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Tax Division for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM | FISCAL YEAR |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>NO.</u> | <u>2026-2027</u> |
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$767,034 |
| (02) EXTRA HELP | 38,238 |
| (03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 299,143 |
| (04) OVERTIME | 5,000 |
| (05) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 194,472 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 20,500 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 100,000 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u><u>\$1,424,387</u></u> |

SECTION 7. REGULAR SALARIES - PIPELINE SAFETY PROGRAM. There is hereby established for the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Pipeline Safety Program 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) | PPU04C | PUBLIC SERVICE DIVISION DIRECTOR | 1 | GRADE SPC08 |
| (2) | PPU02P | PIPELINE SAFETY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT | 1 | GRADE SGS10 |
| (3) | PPU01P | PIPELINE SAFETY COORDINATOR | 7 | GRADE SGS08 |
| (4) | PAS01P | ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST | <u>1</u> | GRADE SGS05 |
| | | MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES | 10 | |

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - PIPELINE SAFETY PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Public Service Commission, to be payable from the Public Service Commission Utility Safety Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Public Service Commission - Pipeline Safety Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

| ITEM NO. | FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (01) REGULAR SALARIES | \$692,907 |
| (02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING | 238,429 |
| (03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION | |
| (A) OPER. EXPENSE | 105,714 |
| (B) CONF. & TRAVEL | 25,620 |
| (C) PROF. FEES | 2,229 |
| (D) CAP. OUTLAY | 0 |
| (E) DATA PROC. | <u>0</u> |
| TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED | <u>\$1,064,899</u> |

SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. REFUND TO EXPENDITURE. The proceeds from the reimbursement of travel expenses received by the Public Service Commission, shall be deposited into the same State Treasury Fund or Fund Account from which the original travel expenditure was incurred as a refund to expenditure to the credit of the

appropriation from which the original expenditure was made.

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

SECTION 10. 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 11. 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 12. 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.

APPROVED: 4/23/26