



**GL #23
HB1077**

**STATE OF ARKANSAS
SARAH HUCKABEE SANDERS
GOVERNOR**

April 3, 2024

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
Representative Lane Jean, Co-Chair
Joint Budget Committee
Arkansas General Assembly
State Capitol Building
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Co-Chairs:

I respectfully request the following amendments to the 2024-2025 Operations Appropriation Bill for the Arkansas Department of Human Services - Division of County Operations.

Please amend SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS as follows and renumber accordingly:

Item Class		Maximum	Maximum Annual		
No.	Code	No. of	Salary Rate		
	Title	Employees	Fiscal Year		
			2024-2025		
(16)	G099C	DHS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR	3	<u>4</u>	GRADE GS09
(33)	C037C	ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	6	<u>14</u>	GRADE GS06
(34)	R027C	BUDGET SPECIALIST	2	<u>3</u>	GRADE GS06
(40)	X136C	QUALITY ASSURANCE REVIEWER	29	<u>28</u>	GRADE GS06
(41)	E046C	TRAINING INSTRUCTOR	14	<u>19</u>	GRADE GS06
(44)	C056C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST III	11	<u>15</u>	GRADE GS04
(47)	C073C	ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST II	9	<u>11</u>	GRADE GS03
(X)	G286C	DMS DEPUTY DIRECTOR		<u>1</u>	GRADE GS15
(X)	G017N	ACOM DWS ASST DIR - TANF		<u>1</u>	GRADE GS13

(X) <u>G020C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS12</u>
(X) <u>G288C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS DIVISION MANAGER</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS09</u>
(X) <u>G110C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM MANAGER</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS09</u>
(X) <u>G081C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS DIVISION CHIEF</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(X) <u>G128C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS FIELD MANAGER II</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(X) <u>G127C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM OPERATIONS MANAGER</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>GRADE GS08</u>
(X) <u>G149C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS FIELD MANAGER I</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(X) <u>G181C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM MONITOR</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(X) <u>G209C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS PROGRAM SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(X) <u>G196C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS SATELLITE OFFICE SUPERVISOR</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(X) <u>A085C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS SR FIELD TAX REPRESENTATIVE</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS07</u>
(X) <u>A092C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS FIELD TAX REP</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(X) <u>G217C</u>	<u>ACOM DWS WORKFORCE SPECIALIST</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(X) <u>G214C</u>	<u>GRANTS SPECIALIST</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(X) <u>B076C</u>	<u>RESEARCH PROJECT ANALYST</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS06</u>
(X) <u>A091C</u>	<u>FISCAL SUPPORT ANALYST</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>GRADE GS05</u>
(X) <u>C087C</u>	<u>ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST I</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>GRADE GS02</u>
	<u>MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES</u>	<u>1,834</u>	<u>2,022</u>

This request will transfer one position out and one position in between the Division of County Operations and the Secretary's Office as needed by the agency. Additionally, two positions will be included that are funded by a SNAP Federal Grant that is expected to continue. This request also transfers 186 positions to the Division as part of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Program.

Please amend SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP OPERATIONS as follows:

Page 3, line 15, delete "thirty-seven (37)" and substitute "forty-three (43)".

This request will transfer six extra help positions from the TANF Program into the Division.

Please amend SECTION 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS as follows:

Item No.			Fiscal Year 2024-2025
(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$77,887,262	\$86,603,039
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	32,312,220	35,861,275
(04)	OVERTIME	125,000	130,000
(05)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION		
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	25,778,976	27,469,893
	(B) PROF. FEES	12,079,291	19,037,338
(06)	DATA PROCESSING SERVICES	18,728,948	20,356,228
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$167,539,634</u>	<u>\$190,085,710</u>

This request, primarily related to TANF, takes into account position changes and reflects appropriation accordingly. Additional federal appropriation is also included to allow the Division to implement spending on a federal grant as soon as the notice of award is received.

Please amend SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS - FEDERAL as follows:

Item No.			Fiscal Year 2024-2025
(01)	HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANT	\$6,588,566	\$7,297,012
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$6,861,412</u>	<u>\$7,569,858</u>

This request will include additional federal appropriation that will allow the Division to implement spending on a federal grant as soon as the notice of award is received.

Please amend SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS as follows:

Item No.			Fiscal Year 2024-2025
(01)	TANF BLOCK GRANT	\$6,893,484	\$57,200,764
(02)	COMMUNITY SERVICE BLOCK GRANT	10,567,165	13,943,475
(03)	SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)	1,975,185	5,378,754
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$19,435,834</u>	<u>\$76,522,993</u>

This request will include additional federal appropriation that will allow the

Division to implement spending on a federal grant as soon as the notice of award is received. Also included in the request is appropriation transferred from the Secretary's Office to support the TANF Program.

SECTION X. APPROPRIATION - EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the federal funds as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grant payments of the Department of Human Services - Division of County Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Fiscal Year</u>
<u>(01) EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE</u>	<u>2024-2025</u>
	<u>\$2,131,685</u>

This request will include additional federal appropriation that will allow the Division to return Emergency Rental Assistance funding to the Federal Government.

Please insert a new section and renumber accordingly:

SECTION X. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFER OF TANF BLOCK GRANT FUNDS. Each fiscal year, the Department of Human Services shall transfer the sum of seven million five hundred thousand dollars (\$7,500,000) from the state's federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant to the Department of Education Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account to be used solely for the Arkansas Better Chance Program.

If the state match for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grant or the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grant is reduced, the amount to be transferred may be adjusted in proportion to the percentage change in the state match or the state's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grant. The amount to be transferred may also be reduced proportionately if new cost requirements are imposed upon the state as a result of new or revised Temporary Assistance for Needy Families regulations at the federal level.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, 2023 2024 through June 30, 2024 2025.

This request transfers a Special Language section from the Department of Human

Services – Secretary’s Office and is associated with TANF.

Please insert a new section and renumber accordingly:

SECTION X. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. RESTRICTIONS ON FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM.

(a)(1) Determining the maximum number of employees, the maximum amount of appropriation, for what purposes an appropriation is authorized, and general revenue funding for a state agency each fiscal year is the prerogative of the General Assembly.

(2) The purposes of subsection (a) of this section are typically accomplished by:

(A) Identifying the purpose in the appropriation act;

(B) Delineating such maximums in the appropriation act for a state agency; and

(C) Delineating the general revenue allocations authorized for each fund and fund account by amendment to the revenue stabilization law.

(3) It is both necessary and appropriate that the General Assembly restrict the use of appropriations authorized in this act.

(b)(1) Upon the request of the Governor or the General Assembly, the Department of Human Services shall request a waiver from the federal government to:

(A) Restrict the financial assistance granted to a recipient of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program or its successor program to purchase goods and services that are considered essential and necessary for the welfare of the family, including without limitation:

(i) Food;

(ii) Clothing;

(iii) Housing;

(iv) Utilities;

(v) Child care; and

(vi) Incidentals, including without limitation transportation and medicine or medical supplies or equipment not covered by either the Arkansas Medicaid Program or the health benefit plan of the individual; and

(B) Restrict the cash withdrawal from an electronic benefit transfer card account that receives financial assistance under the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program or its successor program by electronic benefit transfer

Senator Jonathan Dismang, Co-Chair
Representative Lane Jean, Co-Chair
Page 6

system.

(2) If the federal government denies the waiver application, this section shall not be implemented.

(3) If the division does not request a wavier under subdivision (b)(1) of this section, the department shall not allocate, budget, expend, or utilize appropriations under this act for the participation of persons in the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2023~~ 2024 through June 30, ~~2024~~ 2025.

This request transfers a Special Language section from the Department of Human Services - Secretary's Office and is associated with TANF.

I appreciate your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,



Sarah Huckabee Sanders