

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL LANGUAGE SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE
JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Thursday April 25, 2024

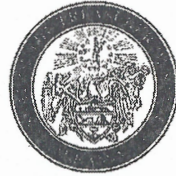
Chairmen:

Your Special Language Subcommittee met on Wednesday April 24, 2024 and makes the following recommendations listed below to the Joint Budget Committee.

A. The following bills and amendments are recommended for approval and are RELEASED from the Subcommittee:

1. HB1033 Treasurer of State – Letter dated February 21, 2024 from Mr. Larry Walther
(Attachment 1) - Amendment JAR099
2. SB47 – Department of Inspector General - Senator Payton - Amendment LCW066
(Attachment 2)
3. HB1041 – Department of Education-Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Public School Fund - Representative Andrews - Amendment KMW069
(Attachment 3)
4. SB53 - Department of Transformation and Shared Services - Representative Cavanaugh and Senator Sullivan - Amendment JAP057
(Attachment 4)
5. SB60 – Department of Education - Senator Hester - Amendment KMW079
(Attachment 5)
6. SB19 - Department of Human Services - Division of Medical Services - Senator Hickey
(Attachment 6) - Amendment LCW067
7. HB1074 - Department of Human Services - Secretary's Office - Representative Wardlaw and Senator Hickey -- Amendment LCW063
(Attachment 7)
8. HB1041 - Department of Education - Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Public School Fund - Senator Hickey - Amendment KMW077
(Attachment 8)
9. SB4 - Bureau of Legislative Research and Legislative Council - Senator Rice
(Attachment 9) - Amendment JAR091
10. SB51 - UAMS - Representative L. Johnson - Amendment HAR107
(Attachment 10)
11. SB53 - Department of Transformation and Shared Services - Amendment JAP054
(Attachment 11)

Respectfully submitted by Subcommittee Co-Chairs Senator Ben Gilmore and Representative Frances Cavanaugh



LARRY W. WALTHER
TREASURER OF STATE
STATE OF ARKANSAS

March 21, 2024

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

Dear Senator Dismang and Representative Jean:

Re: **Revised** FY2025 *Appropriations of the Office of the Treasurer*

I respectfully request the following changes to the FY2025 Office of the Treasurer appropriation. The Arkansas State Treasury has undergone many changes in the past year.

Section (01) Regular Salaries- Operations

The following changes are requested to allow for the retention and recruitment of staff whose positions in the office require a high level of experience and education. We are doing this by increasing line item maximums.

Position Request Justification Our office is requesting the growth pool position acquired by the Treasury in August 2023 (Executive Assistant to the Treasurer), become permanent.

Justification for Regular Salary Appropriation Request We have completed a comparison of state agencies and Constitutional office salaries to ensure our line item maximums are within range for like positions. Following our review, we have determined that a request to increase the line item maximums for Treasury positions is necessary. Treasury operations require specialized knowledge in every division, such as investment management, Treasury cash management, governmental accounting, and information technology. Although it is essential to increase the line item maximum for all Treasury professionals by 10%, it is not our intention to increase all current salaries to the line item maximums at this time. Increases will be based on performance, labor market rates, employee retention, and other discretionary adjustments.

Turnover in the Treasury resulting in the loss of institutional knowledge and experience could quickly create severe circumstances. By making the referenced changes in this request, I feel confident that we will have taken the next step to modernize our workload and compensation for these positions. This will be an area where we will continue to make improvements over time so that we can remain a competitive employer, allowing us to retain and reward our employees for their performance.

In total, the changes above will require an increase to Section 3 Appropriations- Operations Item No. (01) Regular salaries from \$2,616,528 to \$2,791,523 an increase of \$174,995. (This includes the request for the growth pool position totaling \$80,586.)

Also, because of the increased position and line item maximum increases, this will require a change in (03) Personal Service Matching from \$915,785 to \$994,533 an increase of \$78,748.

Section (02) Appropriations- Operations – Extra Help

We are requesting an increase in Extra Help appropriation from \$35,000 to \$50,000. This is an increase of \$15,000.

Section (03) Appropriations- Operations – Data Processing Systems/ Services

We are requesting an additional \$543,285 to the (05) Data Processing Systems/Services expense line item: ~~\$1,096,745~~ \$1,700,000

This appropriation change is required to fund the yearly rise in expenses for maintaining key software solutions, including Clearwater Analytics and Bloomberg LLC, among others. Additionally, there is a critical project aimed at modernizing and upgrading the office's accounting system.

The Treasury uses Clearwater Analytics as its investment accounting software provider. The cost of using Clearwater Analytics depends on the size of our portfolio, and since the State's portfolio has grown by almost 60% since July 2020, the costs for this reporting tool have also increased accordingly.

Updating the Treasury's general ledger software is critical due to the Department of Finance and Administration's planned AASIS SAP upgrade. The substantial, one-time investment required for the modernization of the management software is expected to furnish the Treasury with innovative tools that are at the forefront of transforming governmental technology.

Section (03) Appropriations- Operations – Preparedness, Security & Safety

We are requesting a new line item in our Operations appropriation, titled "Preparedness, Security & Safety" and fund it for \$275,000.

\$275,000

The Office of the Treasurer of State believes it is critical to establish a culture of preparedness for natural and manmade disasters or emergencies. For example, the March 2023 Little Rock tornado made our staff aware how quickly Treasury operations could be impacted in the event of a disaster. Our operations in Little Rock were impacted when our off-site back-up in West Little Rock was heavily damaged. As a result, our back-up systems are now cloud-based and are more reliable.

This office continues to make cybersecurity and business continuity upgrades each day, but I would like to emphasize the importance of preparedness, safety, and security measures by restructuring those expenses into one new line in our operations appropriation. Some of our primary areas of focus are a cloud-based disaster recovery system, internal and external cybersecurity monitoring, employee cybersecurity training, and other Treasury security and prevention measures.

We are requesting to add the following Special Language:

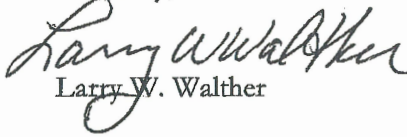
05) Special Language. Not to be incorporated into the Arkansas Code nor published separately as special, local, and temporary law. Salaries.

Employees of the Office of the Treasurer of State shall be eligible for cost-of-living increases on July 1, in an amount equal to that granted to all other state agency, board, commission, or institution of

higher education employees on those dates. Any additional adjustments in annual salary rates for employees, labor market adjustments, merit pay adjustments or employee retention, or recruitment requirements shall be made at the discretion of the Treasurer. In addition, the Treasurer may implement a merit program to reward employees for exceptional service. In order that exceptionally well-qualified personnel may be recruited and retained, the Office of the Treasurer of State may exceed the maximum salary levels by no more than twenty percent (20%) for no more than one-third (1/4) of the positions authorized in the appropriation act after receiving approval from the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Salary payments in accordance with this section shall not be restricted to maximum amounts authorized by law.

These requests will help ensure the effective and smooth operation of the duties of the Treasurer's Office for all Arkansans. I appreciate your thoughtful consideration of this request. Should you have any questions or need additional information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Larry W. Walther

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1033

AN ACT FOR THE OFFICE OF THE TREASURER OF STATE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025
FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to House Bill No. 1033

Amend House Bill No. 1033 as originally introduced:

Page 1, delete lines 31 through 36, and substitute with the following:

" (1)	Q243U	TREAS SENIOR INVESTMENT MANAGER	2	\$157,126
(2)	Q244U	TREAS CHIEF DEPUTY TREASURER	1	\$140,448
(3)	Q348U	TREAS CHIEF OF STAFF	1	\$140,448
(4)	Q098U	TREAS CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER	1	\$126,500
(5)	Q352U	TREAS CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER	1	\$126,500
(6)	Q154U	TREAS CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	1	\$121,275"

AND

Page 2, delete lines 1 through 17, and substitute with the following:

" (7)	Q366U	TREAS DIRECTOR OF INVESTMENT ACCOUNTING	1	\$110,352
(8)	Q236U	TREAS DIVISION DIRECTOR	3	\$106,480
(9)	Q349U	TREAS DIR OF 529 & FINANCIAL EDUCATION	1	\$101,640
(10)	Q350U	TREAS INVESTMENT MANAGER I	1	\$100,122
(11)	Q361U	TREAS CHIEF PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER	1	\$93,638
(12)	Q425U	TREAS DIR OF GOV AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS	1	\$93,638
(13)	Q360U	TREAS INVESTMENT MANAGER II	1	\$91,575
(14)	Q351U	TREAS MANAGER V	2	\$91,575
(15)	Q245U	TREAS MANAGER IV	1	\$85,470
(16)	Q237U	TREAS MANAGER III	1	\$80,586
(17)	Q445U	TREAS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE TREASURER	1	\$80,586
(18)	Q367U	TREAS EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT	1	\$67,100
(19)	Q362U	TREAS ASSIST FOR 529 & FINANCIAL ED	1	\$65,690
(20)	Q238U	TREAS MANAGER II	2	\$62,637
(21)	Q170U	TREAS ASSISTANT IV	1	\$58,364
(22)	Q094U	TREAS ASSISTANT III	3	\$51,282
(23)	Q085U	TREAS ASSISTANT II	4	\$44,718

MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES

33"

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JAR099 - 04-18-2024 15:58:09

Page 1 of 4

AND

Page 3, line 1, delete "\$2,621,528" and substitute with "\$2,775,610"

AND

Page 3, line 2, delete "35,000" and substitute with "50,000"

AND

Page 3, line 3, delete "940,057" and substitute with "971,463"

AND

Page 3, line 10, delete "1,096,715" and substitute with "1,700,000"

AND

Page 3, line 11, delete "75,000" and substitute with "75,000"

AND

Page 3, immediately following line 11, insert the following ITEM number:

"(07) PREPAREDNESS, SECURITY & SAFETY 275,000"

AND

Page 3, line 12, delete "\$6,267,755" and substitute with "\$7,346,528"

AND

Page 3, immediately following SECTION 4, insert the following new SECTION:

" SECTION 5. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SALARIES. Employees of the Office of the Treasurer of State shall be eligible for cost-of-living increases on July 1, in an amount equal to that granted to all

other state agency, board, commission, or institution of higher education employees on those dates. Any additional adjustments in annual salary rates for employees, labor market adjustments, merit pay adjustments or employee retention, or recruitment requirements shall be made at the discretion of the Treasurer. In addition, the Treasurer may implement a merit program to reward employees for exceptional service. In order that exceptionally well-qualified personnel may be recruited and retained, the Office of the Treasurer of State may exceed the maximum salary levels by no more than twenty percent (20%) for no more than one-fourth (1/4) of the positions authorized in the appropriation act after receiving approval from the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee. Salary payments in accordance with this section shall not be restricted to maximum amounts authorized by law.

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 Office of the Treasurer of State may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Office of the Treasurer of State 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. 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 is void.

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

AND

Appropriately renumber all subsequent SECTIONS of the bill.

The Amendment was read _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

JAR/RJA - 04-18-2024 15:58:09

JAR099

Chief Clerk

ARKANSAS SENATE
94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 47

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTOR GENERAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025
FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 47

Amend Senate Bill No. 47 as engrossed S4/23/24 (version: 4/23/2024 2:55:45 PM):

On page 10, immediately following SECTION 19, insert the following:

" SECTION 20. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1117(b)(1), concerning judicial relief from decisions of the Tax Appeals Commission, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) The Except as provided in subdivision (b)(4) of this section, the Department of Finance and Administration may seek judicial relief from a decision of the commission by filing suit against the taxpayer in Pulaski County Circuit Court or in the circuit court of the county in which the taxpayer resides or has its principal place of business in the state.

SECTION 21. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 26-18-1117(b), concerning judicial relief from decisions of the Tax Appeals Commission, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(4)(A) The department may seek judicial relief from a decision of the commission regarding sales and use tax only if:

(i) The total aggregate amount of sales and use tax shown on the proposed tax assessments under § 26-18-403(a) that are the subject of the petition before the commission on which a decision was rendered exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), exclusive of interest and penalties; or

(ii) The total aggregate amount of money shown as

DRAFT

LCW066 - 04-23-2024 17:08:43

Page 1 of 2

denied on the refund denials issued under § 26-18-507(e) that are the subject of the petition before the commission on which a decision was rendered exceeds ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), exclusive of interest and penalties.

(B) Subdivision (b)(4)(A) of this section applies to actions commenced under § 26-18-1113 on or after the effective date of this act."

AND

Appropriately renumber the SECTIONS of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____
By: Joint Budget Committee
By: Senator J. Payton
LCW/WLC - 04-23-2024 17:08:43
LCW066

Secretary

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1041

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to House Bill No. 1041

Amend House Bill No. 1041 as originally introduced:

Page 16, immediately following SECTION 24, insert the following:

" SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(a), concerning the first day of the school year for public schools, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) Each school year, each public school district board of directors and governing entity of an open-enrollment public charter school shall establish by policy the first day of the school year for student attendance in public elementary and secondary schools shall be:

~~(i) On or after the Monday of the week in which August 19 falls;~~

~~(ii) Not earlier than August 14; and~~

~~(iii) Not later than August 26.~~

(B) ~~The date for beginning the school year shall be determined by the board of directors of each school district~~ The first day of the school year for student attendance established under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section shall ensure compliance with the number of student-teacher interaction days or hours required by the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts established by the State Board of Education.

~~(C)(2)~~ Labor Day shall be celebrated as a school holiday in all the school districts of the state, and school shall not be held on that date.

~~(D)(3)~~ As used in this section, "week" means a seven-day period that begins on a Sunday and ends on a Saturday.

~~(2) The Division of Elementary and Secondary Education may grant a school district a waiver to begin school on an earlier or a later date if the division determines that there exists a material and substantial reason for the school district to begin school on an earlier or a later date due to very exceptional or emergency circumstances such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God.~~

SECTION 26. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 6-10-106(f), concerning the inclusion of make-up days in a public school's academic calendar, is amended to read as follows:

(f) Except as provided under subsection (g) of this section, a school district shall adopt an academic calendar that includes five (5) make-up days, in addition to the number of student-teacher interaction days required by the Standards for Accreditation of Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts established by the ~~State Board of Education~~ state board, for days unavoidably lost due to exceptional or emergency circumstances resulting from a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God."

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read _____
By: Joint Budget Committee
By: Representative Andrews
KMW/WKM - 04-18-2024 14:37:29
KMW069

Chief Clerk

ARKANSAS SENATE

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 53

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSFORMATION AND SHARED SERVICES APPROPRIATION
FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 53

Amend Senate Bill No. 53 as originally introduced:

Page 10, immediately following SECTION 17, insert a new SECTION to read as follows:

" SECTION 18. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 19-11-231 is amended to read as follows:

19-11-231. Small procurements.

(a) Any procurement not exceeding the amount under § 19-11-204(13), which refers to small procurements, may be made in accordance with this section and the small procurement procedures promulgated by the State Procurement Director.

(b)(1) However, procurement requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to constitute a small procurement under this section.

(2) The prohibition stated in subdivision (b)(1) of this section includes without limitation purchasing commodities or services, or both, from more than one (1) vendor owned by the same person or entity if the aggregate amount of the purchases from the vendors owned by the same person or entity exceeds the amount stated in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) A state agency shall not provide information to a vendor regarding the amount the state agency is willing to pay for commodities or services, or both, before receiving a quote from the vendor for the amount the vendor would charge for the commodities or services, or both."

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

DRAFT

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Senator D. Sullivan

By: Representative Cavenaugh

JAP/PJ - 04-22-2024 11:46:36

JAP057

ARKANSAS SENATE
94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 60

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 60

Amend Senate Bill No. 60 as originally introduced:

Page 20, immediately following SECTION 30, insert a new SECTION to read as follows:

" SECTION 31. SPECIAL LANGUAGE - CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 12-13-120, concerning the Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(c) The Arkansas Fire Prevention Code shall not require an educational facility, also known as a Group E occupancy, to have a storm shelter if the educational facility, also known as a Group E occupancy:

(1) Is a former Business Group B occupancy; and

(2) Was utilized as an educational occupancy, including without limitation an educational occupancy for higher education purposes."

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

DRAFT

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Senator Hester

KMW/WKM - 04-12-2024 14:17:41

KMW079

ARKANSAS SENATE

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 19

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 19

Amend Senate Bill No. 19 as originally introduced:

On page 10, immediately following SECTION 12, insert the following SECTION:

" SECTION 13. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. MEDICAID PROGRAM TRUST FUND DISTRIBUTION AND BALANCE REPORT. (a) The Department of Human Services shall submit monthly an "Arkansas Medicaid Program Trust Fund Distribution and Balance" report to the Arkansas Legislative Council PEER Subcommittee or, if meeting in a Legislative Session, the Joint Budget Committee PEER/Review Subcommittee no later than ten days prior to the Subcommittee's scheduled meeting date.

(b) The report shall summarize the current total fund balance and the past five Fiscal Year ending total fund balances of the Arkansas Medicaid Program Trust Fund.

(c) The report shall contain, cumulatively over the course of the fiscal year, by month for each distribution from the Arkansas Medicaid Program Trust Fund and its subfunds, the following:

- (1) The amount of the distribution;
- (2) The date of the distribution;
- (3) The fund code to which the distribution was made;
- (4) The appropriation line item name from which the funds are distributed; and
- (5) The purpose of the distribution.

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

AND

Appropriately renumber the SECTIONS of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Senator Hickey

LCW/WLC - 04-12-2024 13:47:02

LCW067

Secretary

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1074

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - SECRETARY'S OFFICE APPROPRIATION
FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to House Bill No. 1074

Amend House Bill No. 1074 as originally introduced:

On page 20, immediately following SECTION 20, insert the following:

" SECTION 21. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. Arkansas State Hospital – Insurance reimbursements and unspent set-aside funds for repairs recoupment.

(a) An insurance reimbursement received by the Department of Human Services to reimburse funds that were transferred from the EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund for critical storm damage repair for the Arkansas State Hospital shall be transferred, as the insurance reimbursement is received, on the books of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, the Treasurer of State, and the Auditor of State from the appropriate fund or fund account into which the department deposited the insurance reimbursement payment to:

(1) The EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund if the EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund is currently active with a balance greater than zero dollars (\$0.00); or

(2) The General Revenue Allotment Reserve Fund if the EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund is no longer active.

(b) Any funds received by the department for critical storm damage repair for the Arkansas State Hospital from the EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund that remain upon completion of the storm

damage repair project shall be transferred as provided for insurance reimbursements under subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The Secretary of the Department of Human Services shall notify the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State and the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review Subcommittee of the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the PEER/Review Subcommittee of the Joint Budget Committee, of the following to allow for the transfers provided for in subsections (a) and (b) of this section:

(1) The receipt of an insurance reimbursement by the department for critical storm damage repair for the Arkansas State Hospital; and

(2) Upon completion of the storm damage repair project, the amount of any remaining funds described in subsection (b) of this section.

(d) The department shall report quarterly to the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee:

(1) The status of the storm damage repair project;

(2) The projected completion time lines for the storm damage repair project;

(3) The total amount of the insurance reimbursements received by the department to date for the storm damage repair project; and

(4) Any remaining balance of the original five million dollars (\$5,000,000) transferred to the department from the EBD or Contingency Set-Aside in the Restricted Reserve Fund.

(e) This section is effective on July 1, 2024, and until the final transfer of funds has been made as provided in this section."

AND

Appropriately renumber the SECTIONS of the bill.

The Amendment was read _____

By: Representative Wardlaw

By: Senator Hickey

LCW/WLC - 04-08-2024 12:01:06 _____

LCW063 Chief Clerk

Hall of the House of Representatives

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of House Bill No. 1041

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
EDUCATION - PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to House Bill No. 1041

Amend House Bill No. 1041 as engrossed H4/16/24 (version: 4/16/2024 4:15:40 PM):

Page 16, immediately following SECTION 24, insert a new SECTION to read as follows:

" SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. DIVISION OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOL FUND AND EDUCATIONAL ADEQUACY FUND DISTRIBUTION AND FUND BALANCE REPORT.(a) The Department of Education shall submit quarterly a "Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Distribution and Balance" report to the Arkansas Legislative Council PEER Subcommittee or, if meeting in a Legislative Session, the Joint Budget Committee PEER/Review Subcommittee no later than ten days prior to the Subcommittee's scheduled meeting date.

(1) The report shall summarize the current total fund balance and the past five Fiscal Year ending total fund balances of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Public School Fund.

(2) The report shall contain, cumulatively over the course of the fiscal year, by quarter a summary of the itemized totals distributed from each subfund of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education - Public School Fund and each subfund shall be organized as restricted or unrestricted in spending purpose.

(b) The Department of Education shall submit monthly an "Educational

Adequacy Fund Distribution and Balance" report to the Arkansas Legislative Council PEER Subcommittee or, if meeting in a Legislative Session, the Joint Budget Committee PEER/Review Subcommittee no later than ten days prior to the Subcommittee's scheduled meeting date.

(1) The report shall summarize the current total fund balance and the past five Fiscal Year ending total fund balances of the Educational Adequacy Fund.

(2) The report shall contain the following:

(A) Monthly beginning fund balance;

(B) Monthly Distribution report with total distributions to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account; and

(C) Amount of certified funding obligation remaining to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Public School Fund Account and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Fund Account for the fiscal year.

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

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Senator Hickey

KMW/WKM - 04-17-2024 10:06:24

KMW077

Chief Clerk

ARKANSAS SENATE
94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 4

AN ACT FOR THE BUREAU OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH AND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 4

Amend Senate Bill No. 4 as originally introduced:

Page 6, immediately following SECTION 8, insert a new SECTION to read as follows:

" SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code § 10-3-303(j), concerning the Bureau of Legislative Research, is amended to read as follows:

(j)(1) Any adjustments in annual salary rates for employees of the bureau, including without limitation labor market adjustments, merit pay adjustments, or employee retention or recruitment requirements shall be made at the discretion of the director.

~~(2)(A) Salary payments under this subsection shall not be restricted to maximum amounts authorized by law.~~

~~(B) If salary adjustments under this subsection exceed the maximum line item amount authorized by law for a position, the amount shall be paid to the employee as a lump sum payment.~~

(3) In order that exceptionally well-qualified personnel may be recruited and retained, Bureau of Legislative Research may exceed the maximum salary levels by no more than twenty percent (20%) for no more than one-third (1/3) of the positions authorized in its operative appropriation act after receiving approval from the:

(A) Legislative Council; or

(B) Joint Budget Committee, if the General Assembly is in session."

AND

Appropriately renumber the subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

DRAFT

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Rice

JAR/RJA - 04-19-2024 13:40:02

JAR091

ARKANSAS SENATE

94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024

Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 51

AN ACT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES APPROPRIATION FOR THE
2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 51

Amend Senate Bill No. 51 as originally introduced:

Page 19, immediately following SECTION 26, insert the following SECTION:

" SECTION 27. APPROPRIATION - MATERNAL HEALTH WORKFORCE. There is hereby appropriated, to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, to be payable from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Maternal Health Workforce Trust Fund, for financial aid and programs in education and training for the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Maternal Health Workforce for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
(01) MATERNAL HEALTH WORKFORCE FINANCIAL AID AND PROGRAMS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING EXPENSES	<u>\$2,000,000</u>

SECTION 28. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings - Maternal Health Workforce.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Arkansas faces significant challenges in maternal health as the highest-ranking state in infant and maternal mortality;

(2) Data from the National Center for Health Statistics and the Department of Health indicates that the state's maternal mortality rate is forty-three point five (43.5) per one hundred thousand (100,000) births compared to a national average of twenty-three point five (23.5) per one hundred thousand (100,000) births based on our most recent data in ending in 2021;

(3) Additionally, disparities exist within the state even when accounting for chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, and obesity, as rural areas often have very limited or no access to maternal healthcare services;

(4) In 2021, three hundred nine (309) infants in Arkansas died before reaching their first birthdays, and there was an infant mortality rate

of eight point six (8.6) per one thousand (1,000) live births compared to a national average of five point four (5.4) per one thousand (1,000);

(5) In 2002, one (1) in nine (9) babies was born preterm and one (1) in eleven (11) babies was born low birthweight;

(6) In an average week, out of one thousand three hundred sixty-nine (1,369) babies born, only four hundred ninety-four (494) women receive adequate prenatal care;

(7) Arkansas faces a stark reality that forty-five and three-tenths percent (45.3%) of its counties are maternity care deserts compared to thirty-two and six-tenths percent (32.6%) nationally;

(8) This shortage of maternal health providers, especially in rural areas, leads to delayed or inadequate prenatal care and heightens the risks for both mothers and infants;

(9) Expanding the maternal health workforce is imperative;

(10) With better access to care, pregnant women can receive timely interventions for high-risk pregnancies, reducing adverse outcomes, and reducing low birthweight and preterm deliveries;

(11) Moreover, a well-trained workforce can offer vital prenatal education, fostering healthier pregnancies and births;

(12) Investing in recruiting and retaining maternal health professionals is key in saving Arkansas women and babies;

(13) By providing better care, Arkansas can not only save on healthcare costs but also bolster its workforce and economy; and

(14) Prioritizing these initiatives will fortify Arkansas's healthcare system and ensure equitable access for all.

SECTION 29. SPECIAL LANGUAGE – CODE AMENDMENT. Arkansas Code Title 19, Chapter 5, Subchapter 11, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

19-5-1160. University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Maternal Health Workforce Trust Fund.

(a) There is created on the books of the Treasurer of State, the Auditor of State, and the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State a trust fund to be known as the "University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Maternal Health Workforce Trust Fund".

(b) The fund shall consist of:

(1) Moneys obtained from private grants or other sources that are designated to be credited to the fund; and

(2) Any other funds authorized or provided by law.

(c)(1) The fund shall be used by University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences solely to open and offer programs in education and training, including without limitation:

(A) Obstetrician-gynecologist residencies and fellowships;

(B) Family practice obstetrician fellowships;

(C) Nursing Midwife certifications;

(D) Doula certifications;

(E) Maternal community health worker training; and

(F) Maternal therapist certifications.

(2) The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences shall prioritize spending and allocating funds in a manner to maximize impact of

the expanded maternal health workforce considering the recommendations of the Maternal Mortality Review Committee.

(d) Funds may be allocated to student financial aid in the form of scholarships and loans for students who agree to:

(1) Participate in programs offered by the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences; and

(2) Practice in the State of Arkansas for at least two (2) years.

(e) The Treasurer of State shall invest the moneys available in the fund.

(f)(1) The investment of funds under this section is exempt from § 19-3-518(a)(2)(B)(i)(b) and (c).

(2) Moneys in the fund may be invested in any instrument:

(A) Listed in § 19-3-518(b)(1)(B); and

(B) Approved by the guidelines established by the State Treasury investment policy approved by the State Board of Finance.

(g) Moneys remaining in the fund at the end of each fiscal year shall carry forward and be made available for the purposes stated in this section in the next fiscal year.

(h)(1) The University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences shall submit a semiannual report containing the following information to the Governor; the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee; the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor; and the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor:

(A) The balance of the fund as of the reporting date;

(B) A list of the administrative costs paid for from the fund, including without limitation salaries, pensions, and packages;

(C) The total revenue received by the fund during the reporting period; and

(D) A detailed description of the steps taken and the progress made toward addressing the maternal health workforce needs of Arkansas during the reporting period.

(2) The semiannual report required under this subsection shall be submitted by January 1 and July 1 of each year."

AND

Appropriately renumber subsequent SECTION numbers of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Representative L. Johnson

HAR/RHA - 04-17-2024 11:50:10

HAR107

Secretary

ARKANSAS SENATE
94th General Assembly - Fiscal Session, 2024
Amendment Form

DRAFT

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 53

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSFORMATION AND SHARED SERVICES APPROPRIATION
FOR THE 2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR.

Amendment No. ___ to Senate Bill No. 53

Amend Senate Bill No. 53 as originally introduced:

Page 10, immediately following SECTION 17 insert new Sections to read as follows:

" SECTION 18. Arkansas Code § 19-11-206, concerning the definitions used regarding intergovernmental relations under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to add additional subdivisions to read as follows:

(6) "Consumer Price Index" means the most recent Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers published by the United States Department of Labor, or its successor; and

(7)(A) "Public school construction services" means services procured by a public school district or open-enrollment public charter school under a contract with a corresponding cooperative purchasing verification letter providing for the making of repairs, alterations, erection, or other permanent improvements to a public building, property, or structure that do not exceed a total aggregate amount of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) for a public procurement unit in a fiscal year.

(B)(i) Annually on July 1, at the direction of the Office of State Procurement and with the approval of the Legislative Council or, if the General Assembly is in session, the Joint Budget Committee, the amount stated in subdivision (7)(A) of this section shall be adjusted by the percentage, if any, by which the Consumer Price Index for the current calendar year exceeds the Consumer Price Index for the preceding calendar year, not to exceed three percent (3%).

(ii) The Consumer Price Index for a calendar year is the average of the Consumer Price Index as of the close of the twelve-month period ending on August 31 of that calendar year.

SECTION 19. Arkansas Code § 19-11-249(a)(1), concerning cooperative purchasing under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) A public procurement unit may participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative purchasing agreement for the acquisition of

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public school construction services, commodities, or other services in accordance with an agreement entered into between the participants.

SECTION 20. Arkansas Code § 19-11-249(a)(2)(A), concerning cooperative purchasing under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) A cooperative purchasing agreement is limited to public school construction services, commodities, and other services for which the public procurement unit may realize savings or material economic value, or both.

SECTION 21. Arkansas Code § 19-11-249(b)(2), concerning the annual report of all purchases made under cooperative purchasing agreements under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to read as follows:

(2) The reports required under this subsection shall be submitted by July 1 in the format required by the Legislative Council and shall include the following:

- (A) The name of the contractor;
- (B) The name of the procuring agency;
- (C) The contact information for the contractor and procuring agency;
- (D) The total cost of the contract, including all available extensions;
- (E) A description of the public school construction services, goods, or other services procured; and
- (F) Any other information requested by the Legislative Council or the Joint Budget Committee.

SECTION 22. Arkansas Code § 19-11-249, concerning cooperative purchasing under the Arkansas Procurement Law, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:

(d) If a public procurement unit needs to procure public school construction services in excess of the amount provided in § 19-11-206(7), the public procurement unit may submit a request for a waiver to the Executive Subcommittee of the Legislative Council."

AND

Appropriately renumber the sections of the bill.

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Joint Budget Committee

By: Representatives Wardlaw, Evans

JAP/PJ - 04-23-2024 10:34:47

JAP054

Secretary