

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

SENATE BILL 854

By: Senator Maloch

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND ACT 281 OF 2012 CONCERNING THE STATE
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND; TO DECLARE AN
EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND ACT 281 OF 2012 CONCERNING THE
STATE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND; AND
TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Distribution of funds in the State Administration of Justice Fund. Uncodified Section 59 of Act 281 of 2012, concerning an appropriation to the Department of Finance and Administration for the State Administration of Justice Fund, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 59. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL, AND TEMPORARY LAW. DISTRIBUTION OF ~~ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUNDS~~ IN THE STATE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE FUND.

(a)(1) In the event that ~~If~~ the fund balance in the State Administration of Justice Fund is inadequate to fund the monthly allocation to ~~State Agencies, the funds will be distributed as follows~~ state agencies, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may:

(A) Before making any other distribution from the fund, fully fund allocations for salaries and personnel services matching costs of the trial court administrative assistants and court reporters; and

(B)(i) All Fund all remaining monthly allocations to ~~State~~



~~Agencies will be funded~~ state agencies in the percentage of the total funds available in the ~~Administration of Justice Fund, fund,~~ that is, if less than ~~100%~~ one hundred percent (100%) of the total monthly allocation is available for distribution, all monthly allocations to ~~State Agencies~~ state agencies will be funded at an equal percentage consistent with the available funds, provided that any of the allocations listed in Section 60 of Act 281 of 2012 that have been fully pledged ~~prior to~~ before January 1, 2001, to the repayment of a bond issue or bond issues shall not be reduced below the amount listed in Section 60 of Act 281 of 2012.

(ii) Any shortage from one (1) month will be adjusted in future months' payments as funds become available.

(2) If less than one hundred percent (100%) of the total monthly allocation is available for distribution, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may reduce the obligations for the agencies' appropriations from the State Central Services Fund that receive support from the Administration of Justice Fund on a pro rata basis.

(b) The provisions of this This section shall be in effect only is effective from July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the current process for the payment of salaries for trial court administrative assistants and court reporters is inadequate to provide the necessary funding to meet current payroll requirements; that the payment of salaries to ensure the uninterrupted service of trial court administrative assistants and court reporters is essential to the administration of justice and the judicial system; and that this act is immediately necessary to provide the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State with the authority to provide for the payments. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is

overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.