

State of Arkansas  
95th General Assembly  
Fiscal Session, 2026

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1044

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 COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS COURT OF APPEALS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Arkansas Court of Appeals 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)	Q017N	CHIEF STAFF ATTORNEY	1	GRADE EXE02
(2)	Q033C	LAW CLERK	24	GRADE SPC07
(3)	Q013C	STAFF ATTORNEY	3	GRADE SPC07
(4)	Q034C	CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	1	GRADE SPC05
(5)	Q087C	DEPUTY COURT ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SPC05
(6)	Q099C	FINANCE OFFICER	1	GRADE SGS09



(7)	Q112C	JUDICIAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	12	GRADE SGS09
(8)	Q098C	ASSISTANT CHIEF DEPUTY CLERK	1	GRADE SGS08
(9)	Q119C	DEPUTY CLERK	3	GRADE SGS07
(10)	Q111C	JUDICIAL ADMIN ASSISTANT	1	GRADE SGS07
(11)	Q100C	RECORDS MANAGER	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS07
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	49	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Arkansas Court of Appeals 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 3. APPROPRIATION - OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Court of Appeals, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, special judges, court appointed attorneys, and other legal expenses of the Arkansas Court of Appeals for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$4,331,243
(02) EXTRA HELP	25,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	1,384,879
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	276,129
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	80,900
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	50,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) LEGAL COUNSEL	360,000
(06) SPECIAL JUDGES	17,044
(07) MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT	<u>60,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$6,585,195</u></u>

SECTION 4. 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 5. 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 6. 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.