

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

A Bill

SENATE BILL 1

By: Senate Efficiency

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE ARKANSAS SENATE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE ARKANSAS SENATE APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES - STAFF SERVICES. There is hereby established for the Arkansas Senate for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the following maximum number of regular employees.

Item No.	Title	Maximum	Maximum Annual
		No. of Employees	Salary Rate Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(1)	DIR OF SENATE/SECRETARY OF SENATE	1	GRADE EXE01
(2)	CHIEF COUNSEL/PARLIAMENTARIAN	1	GRADE SPC10
(3)	ASST SEC OF SENATE/CONSTITUENT SVCS MGR	1	GRADE SPC08
(4)	COMMUNICATIONS/PUBLIC INFO OFFICER	1	GRADE SPC05
(5)	FISCAL OFFICER/EMPLOYEE BENEFITS LIAISON	1	GRADE SPC05
(6)	ASST COMMUNICATIONS & INFO OFFICER	1	GRADE SPC04



(7)	TECHNICAL SERVICES COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SPC04
(8)	SENIOR CONSTITUENT SERVICE ADVISOR	1	GRADE SPC03
(9)	ASSISTANT TO PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE	1	GRADE SPC03
(10)	CONSTITUENT SERVICE ADVISOR	8	GRADE SPC02
(11)	LEGISLATIVE ASST/RECEPTIONIST/SESSION	1	GRADE SGS08
(12)	CSO ADMIN ASST/RECEPTIONIST/SESSION	2	GRADE SGS07
(13)	PROPERTIES OFFICER/INVENTORY	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS07
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	21	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - STAFF SERVICES. There is hereby authorized, for the Arkansas Senate 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 - STAFF SERVICES. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Arkansas Senate for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$1,963,896
(02) EXTRA HELP	50,000
(03) PERSONAL SERV MATCHING	587,183
(04) MAINT. & GEN OPERATION	<u>250,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$2,851,079</u></u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - ORIENTATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the Constitutional Officers Fund, for expenses of the State Orientation including the payment of per diem and mileage of members of the Arkansas Senate who attend the Senate Orientation program held prior to the convening of a Legislative Session of the General Assembly, the sum of.....\$15,000.

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - REAPPROPRIATION - CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the Constitutional Officers Fund, for the balance remaining on June 30, 2026 in the appropriations Section 3 of Act 1 of 2025 and Sections 4 and 5 of Act 1011 of 2025, there to be used for any purpose to defray the necessary expenses of the Arkansas Senate of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly, in a sum in the aggregate not to exceed.....\$4,000,000.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - REAPPROPRIATION - STATE CENTRAL SERVICES FUND. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, and payable from the balance remaining on June 30, 2026 in the appropriations, Sections 3, 6, 7 and 8 of Act 1011 of 2025 there to be used for any purpose to defray the necessary expenses of the Arkansas Senate of the Ninety-Fifth General Assembly, in a sum in the aggregate not to exceed.....\$4,000,000.

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - COMPUTERIZATION. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for expenses necessary in continuing the computerization of the legislative process in the Arkansas Senate, the sum of.....\$700,000.

SECTION 8. APPROPRIATION - RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Arkansas Senate, to be payable from the State Central Services Fund, for construction, improvements, renovations and equipping of the Arkansas Senate facilities and other purposes of the Arkansas Senate, the sum of.....\$1,500,000.

SECTION 9. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. TRANSFERS. If the Senate Efficiency Committee and the Secretary of the Senate, subject to the approval of the Arkansas Senate, should determine that any item or portion thereof appropriated herein for a specific purpose is not needed for such purpose, the Secretary of the Senate may certify such fact to the State Auditor and the State Auditor shall cause a transfer to be made from one item to another.

SECTION 10. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SALARIES. In order that exceptionally well-qualified personnel may be recruited and retained, the Senate 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 their operation appropriation act, and may exceed the maximum salary levels for the purpose of merit adjustments for all positions.

SECTION 11. 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 12. 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 13. 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.