

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

A Bill

SENATE BILL 15

By: Joint Budget Committee

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MAKE AN APPROPRIATION FOR PERSONAL SERVICES AND OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND TOURISM DIVISIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, HERITAGE, AND TOURISM - STATE PARKS AND TOURISM DIVISIONS APPROPRIATION FOR THE 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR.

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

SECTION 1. REGULAR SALARIES. There is hereby established for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions 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)	EEX27A	PARKS, HERITAGE, & TOURISM DIV. DIR	2	GRADE EXE01
(2)	EEX26A	PARKS DEPUTY DIRECTOR	1	GRADE SPC10
(3)	SEN02P	ENGINEER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SPC06
(4)	SAS01I	ARCHITECT	1	GRADE SPC03



(5)	SEN01P ENGINEER	1	GRADE SPC03
(6)	RMA03I CURATOR	4	GRADE SPC01
(7)	RPA08C PARK ADMINISTRATOR	2	GRADE SGS12
(8)	RPA09C PARK AREA MANAGER	5	GRADE SGS11
(9)	RPA13C PARK MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS11
(10)	RPA20C PARK SUPERINTENDENT IV	6	GRADE SGS10
(11)	EEP06P EDUCATION PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS10
(12)	FFS03C FISCAL SUPPORT MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS09
(13)	RPA04C LODGE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS09
(14)	RPA19C PARK SUPERINTENDENT III	22	GRADE SGS09
(15)	RPA18C PARK SUPERINTENDENT II	38	GRADE SGS08
(16)	RPA25P ADPHT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	3	GRADE SGS08
(17)	TCO04P CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS08
(18)	RPA01C ASSISTANT LODGE MANAGER	3	GRADE SGS07
(19)	TFM02C FACILITY MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS07
(20)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(21)	CME03P GRAPHIC ARTIST	4	GRADE SGS07
(22)	TST02P LICENSED TRADESMAN	3	GRADE SGS07
(23)	RPA15P PARK PLANNER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(24)	CME06P PRODUCER	1	GRADE SGS07
(25)	PAS04C ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR	1	GRADE SGS06
(26)	RRE01C FOOD & BEVERAGE MANAGER	2	GRADE SGS06
(27)	RPA17C PARK SUPERINTENDENT I	13	GRADE SGS06
(28)	RTO02C WELCOME CENTER MANAGER	1	GRADE SGS06
(29)	ILP04I REAL ESTATE ANALYST	1	GRADE SGS06
(30)	RMA02P ARCHIVIST	1	GRADE SGS06
(31)	FGM04P GRANTS SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS06
(32)	TMA04P MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	13	GRADE SGS06
(33)	TAT06P MECHANIC	1	GRADE SGS06
(34)	RPA14P PARK PLANNER	6	GRADE SGS06
(35)	RPA24P ADPHT PROGRAM COORDINATOR	6	GRADE SGS06
(36)	TST04P SKILLED TRADESMAN	18	GRADE SGS06
(37)	TFS04C FOOD SERVICES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	5	GRADE SGS05
(38)	TAT03I ENGINEERING SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS05
(39)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	13	GRADE SGS05
(40)	TFM03P FACILITY SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	15	GRADE SGS05

(41)	RPA05P LODGE SALES COORDINATOR	8	GRADE SGS05
(42)	TMA01P MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR	11	GRADE SGS05
(43)	CMA01P MARKETING COORDINATOR	2	GRADE SGS05
(44)	RPA10P PARK COORDINATOR	6	GRADE SGS05
(45)	RPA21P PARK SUPERINTENDENT TRAINEE	3	GRADE SGS05
(46)	RPA23P ADPHT INTERPRETER II	42	GRADE SGS05
(47)	TAT05I HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR	3	GRADE SGS04
(48)	PAS02P ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR	52	GRADE SGS04
(49)	TFM01P FACILITY COORDINATOR	28	GRADE SGS04
(50)	FFS04P FISCAL SUPPORT SPECIALIST	9	GRADE SGS04
(51)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	3	GRADE SGS04
(52)	IIN01P INSPECTOR I	3	GRADE SGS04
(53)	TMA03P MAINTENANCE SPECIALIST	42	GRADE SGS04
(54)	TAT08P PRINTER	1	GRADE SGS04
(55)	RRE02P RESTAURANT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	6	GRADE SGS04
(56)	TST07P TRADES SPECIALIST	2	GRADE SGS04
(57)	RTO03P WELCOME CENTER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	14	GRADE SGS04
(58)	TFS05P KITCHEN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS03
(59)	RPA06P LODGE SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	2	GRADE SGS03
(60)	TMA05P MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	88	GRADE SGS03
(61)	RPA12P PARK HOUSEKEEPER SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	13	GRADE SGS03
(62)	SSE01P SECURITY GUARD	1	GRADE SGS03
(63)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	10	GRADE SGS02
(64)	TGR01P LANDSCAPE COORDINATOR	12	GRADE SGS02
(65)	RMA11P MUSEUM SPECIALIST	6	GRADE SGS02
(66)	RPA11P PARK HOUSEKEEPER	18	GRADE SGS02
(67)	RPA16P PARK SPECIALIST	33	GRADE SGS02
(68)	RTO01P TRAVEL CONSULTANT	32	GRADE SGS02
(69)	TFS01P COOK	22	GRADE SGS01
(70)	RRE03P SERVER	12	GRADE SGS01
(71)	SPL01C PARK LIEUTENANT COLONEL	1	GRADE LES07
(72)	SPL02C PARK MAJOR	1	GRADE LES06
(73)	SPL04C PARK SERGEANT	5	GRADE LES04
(74)	SPL03P PARK RANGER	30	GRADE LES03
(75)	TCO01P CONSTRUCTION COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS07
(76)	TST05P SKILLED TRADESMAN SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07

(77) CME04P MEDIA SPECIALIST 1 GRADE SGS05
 MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES 732

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions 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: eight hundred seven (807) 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 - STATE OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Parks and Tourism Fund Account, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - State Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$12,569,422
(02) EXTRA HELP	2,500
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	5,483,877
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	0
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) TOURISM/MUSEUM GRANTS	30,000
(06) CONFERENCE-DAC	<u>100</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$18,085,899</u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - RETIREMENT AND RELOCATION PROMOTION PROGRAM.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for operating and advertising expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Retirement and Relocation Promotion Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$60,000
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	10,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	<u>898,619</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$968,619</u></u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism Fund Account, from proceeds derived from the Conservation Tax levied by Amendment 75 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Conservation Tax Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$7,707,277
(02) EXTRA HELP	2,134,077
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	3,359,215
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	16,394,284
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	613,894
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	3,500,000

(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) CONSTRUCTION	45,874,272
(06) SPECIAL MAINTENANCE	<u>4,000,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$83,583,019</u></u>

SECTION 6. REGULAR SALARIES - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby established for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations 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)	RPA25P	ADPHT PROGRAM SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
(2)	RPA24P	ADPHT PROGRAM COORDINATOR	1	GRADE SGS06
(3)	TMA05P	MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN	<u>1</u>	GRADE SGS03
		MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	3	

SECTION 7. EXTRA HELP - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations 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: one (1) temporary or part-time employee, 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 8. APPROPRIATION - KEEP ARKANSAS BEAUTIFUL - CONSERVATION TAX OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Keep Arkansas Beautiful Fund Account, from proceeds derived from the Conservation Tax levied by Amendment 75 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State

Parks and Tourism Divisions - Keep Arkansas Beautiful - Conservation Tax Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$138,924
(02) EXTRA HELP	6,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	55,401
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	88,937
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	125,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) KAB GRANTS	40,000
(06) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	<u>600,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,059,262</u></u>

SECTION 9. APPROPRIATION - MUSEUM OF NATURAL RESOURCES - SPECIAL REVENUE FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Arkansas Museum of Natural Resources Fund, for personal services of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Museum of Natural Resources - Special Revenue Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$76,932
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	<u>33,736</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$110,668</u></u>

SECTION 10. APPROPRIATION - TOURISM PROMOTION - SPECIAL REVENUE FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks,

Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Tourism Promotion
 - Special Revenue Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027,
 the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$283,677
(02) EXTRA HELP	27,502
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	123,625
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	3,222,977
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	41,570
(C) PROF. FEES	2,246,280
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	125,000
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) TOURIST PROMOTION	2,922,000
(06) ADVERTISING EXPENSE	24,260,050
(07) SMALL FESTIVAL EXPENSES, ADVERTISING & GRANTS	<u>150,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$33,402,681</u>

SECTION 11. APPROPRIATION - OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Parks and Tourism Outdoor Recreation Grants Fund, for personal services, operating expenses, and outdoor recreation grants of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Outdoor Recreation Grants Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$166,707
(02) EXTRA HELP	25,210
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	72,789
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	37,020

(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	5,000
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS	<u>9,716,374</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$10,023,100</u></u>

SECTION 12. APPROPRIATION - SCORP PROGRAM - FEDERAL FUND OPERATIONS.

There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the federal funds as designated by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses and outdoor recreation grants of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	\$34,232
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	6,100
(C) PROF. FEES	100,000
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) OUTDOOR RECREATION GRANTS	<u>8,308,402</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$8,448,734</u></u>

SECTION 13. APPROPRIATION - PARKS - CASH FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Parks - Cash Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
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(01)	REGULAR SALARIES	\$9,769,812
(02)	EXTRA HELP	6,565,923
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	4,520,499
(04)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	11,566,526
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	34,000
	(C) PROF. FEES	2,000,000
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	500,000
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05)	CONSTRUCTION	500,000
(06)	RESALE (COGS)	5,564,961
(07)	DEBT SERVICE	0
(08)	CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	<u>486,177</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$41,507,898</u></u>

SECTION 14. APPROPRIATION - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for personal services, operating expenses, major maintenance, renovation of facilities and scoreboards, and repairs of War Memorial Stadium of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$304,119	
(02) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	118,893	
(03) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION		
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	12,198
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
	(C) PROF. FEES	0
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
	(E) DATA PROC.	<u>0</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$435,210</u></u>	

SECTION 15. EXTRA HELP - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM - CASH FUND OPERATIONS.

There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - War Memorial Stadium - Cash Fund Operations 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: one hundred forty-four (144) 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 16. APPROPRIATION - WAR MEMORIAL STADIUM - CASH FUND OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - War Memorial Stadium - Cash Fund Operations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$82,348
(02) EXTRA HELP	144,000
(03) PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	47,715
(04) MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
(A) OPER. EXPENSE	921,088
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(05) RESALE (COGS)	213,000
(06) REFUNDS/REIMBURSEMENTS	<u>100,000</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$1,508,151</u></u>

SECTION 17. APPROPRIATION - DELTA HERITAGE TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the cash fund deposited in the State Treasury as

determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for operating expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Delta Heritage Trail Construction Program for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) CONSTRUCTION	<u>\$37,880,862</u>

SECTION 18. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Miscellaneous Agencies Fund Account, for miscellaneous grants and expenses of the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism - State Parks and Tourism Divisions - Arkansas Wine Producers Council for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) ARKANSAS WINE PRODUCERS COUNCIL	<u>\$5,000</u>

SECTION 19. APPROPRIATION - ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to be payable from the Tourism Development Trust Fund, for land acquisition, construction, lease, equipment acquisition, improvements, renovation, major maintenance, personal services, maintenance and operating expenses associated with the wine tourism facility in Franklin County, Arkansas for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM NO.	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027
(01) ARKANSAS WINE TOURISM FACILITY EXPENSES	<u>\$1,250,000</u>

SECTION 20. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SPECIAL MAINTENANCE. The funds appropriated in the Conservation Tax Operations

appropriation section of this act for the Division of Arkansas State Parks Special Maintenance shall be expended, after receiving prior approval by the Arkansas Legislative Council or Joint Budget Committee, for a special maintenance program for the Park System. The funds provided will be used for repair and upkeep of parks and museum facilities that have been deferred due to lack of funds in the individual budgets of the parks and museums.

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 Division of Arkansas State Parks may operate more efficiently if some flexibility is provided to the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism 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 or the Special Maintenance line item. 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 and the Special Maintenance line item in the Conservation Tax Operations appropriation section is void.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 21. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. CASH PRIZES - STATE PARKS. The Division of Arkansas State Parks is hereby authorized to award merchandise, gift certificates, and cash prizes to contestants in various special events authorized by the Division Director of the Division of Arkansas State Parks. Such prizes may be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prize winners and shall be payable from the maintenance and operation line item of the Parks - Cash Fund Operations appropriation section. The cash prizes, in aggregate, for all contests, shall not exceed

\$10,000 per fiscal year.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 22. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. MISSISSIPPI RIVER DOMESTIC - INTERNATIONAL MARKETING PLAN. Of the funds appropriated to the Division of Arkansas Tourism - Great River Road for operating expenses in the State Operations appropriation section of this act, up to \$15,000 each year is authorized to be utilized for the implementation of the Mississippi River Domestic - International Marketing Plan.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 23. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. SMALL FESTIVAL FUNDING. The General Assembly acknowledges the economic benefits of festivals which attract visitors and stimulate the growth of tourism and businesses statewide.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism to the contrary, the Department of Parks, Heritage, and Tourism shall dedicate, commit, and budget annually one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) from the 2% tourism tax credited to the Tourism Development Trust Fund for expense, advertising, marketing, or grants for small festivals in Arkansas communities of less than 10,500 people. Any funds not granted out in a fiscal year shall be available for other tourism promotion efforts.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 24. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. EXTRA HELP. The Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism may utilize their authorized extra-help positions and contract labor event staff up to a maximum of one thousand eight hundred (1,800) hours during seasonal events at War Memorial Stadium. The rates of pay may not exceed those provided in the

Uniform Classification Act, or its successor, for the appropriate classification.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 25. SPECIAL LANGUAGE. NOT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE ARKANSAS CODE NOR PUBLISHED SEPARATELY AS SPECIAL, LOCAL AND TEMPORARY LAW. PROMOTIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS. The Division of Arkansas State Parks and Tourism is hereby authorized to purchase from Maintenance and General Operations appropriations provided by this Act, up to an amount not to exceed \$75,000 each fiscal year, promotional and educational merchandise, authorized by the Secretary of the Department of Arkansas Parks, Heritage, and Tourism, to inform the public of the Division's programs, to promote the functions of the Division, and to inform the public regarding services provided by the Division.

The provisions of this section shall be in effect only from July 1, ~~2025~~ 2026 through June 30, ~~2026~~ 2027.

SECTION 26. 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 27. 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 28. 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.