

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Fiscal Session, 2026

A Bill

SENATE BILL 22

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 HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2027; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

AN ACT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - DIVISION OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES 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 Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services 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)	EEX22A	HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR	1	GRADE EXE02
(2)	SSP03C	DHS DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR	1	GRADE SPC09
(3)	SSP04C	DHS DIVISION MANAGER	6	GRADE SPC07



(4)	EES02P EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL II	1	GRADE SPC04
(5)	SSP09C SOCIAL SERVICES AREA MANAGER	10	GRADE SGS11
(6)	SSP14C SOCIAL SERVICES COUNTY MANAGER III	2	GRADE SGS10
(7)	SSP15C SOCIAL SERVICES MANAGER	19	GRADE SGS09
(8)	SSP12C SOCIAL SERVICES COUNTY MANAGER I	28	GRADE SGS08
(9)	SSP17P SOCIAL SERVICES SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	165	GRADE SGS08
(10)	CTR04P TRAINING SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS08
(11)	FFS05P FISCAL SUPPORT SUPERVISOR/EXPERT	1	GRADE SGS07
(12)	SSP11P SOCIAL SERVICES COORDINATOR	29	GRADE SGS07
(13)	SSP16P SOCIAL SERVICES SPECIALIST	730	GRADE SGS06
(14)	PAS01P ADMINISTRATIVE ANALYST	16	GRADE SGS05
(15)	PPE02P PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY SPECIALIST I	8	GRADE SGS05
(16)	HDH07P HR SPECIALIST	1	GRADE SGS04
(17)	PAS03P ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST	57	GRADE SGS02
(18)	SSP10P SOCIAL SERVICES ASSISTANT	<u>344</u>	GRADE SGS02
	MAX. NO. OF EMPLOYEES	1,420	

SECTION 2. EXTRA HELP - OPERATIONS. There is hereby authorized, for the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services 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: sixty-five (65) 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 Department of Human Services, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for personal services and operating expenses of the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) REGULAR SALARIES	\$62,628,666

(02)	EXTRA HELP	1,231,570
(03)	PERSONAL SERVICES MATCHING	27,012,766
(04)	OVERTIME	5,061,305
(05)	MAINT. & GEN. OPERATION	
	(A) OPER. EXPENSE	17,191,660
	(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	39,011
	(C) PROF. FEES	33,236,462
	(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
	(E) DATA PROC.	0
(06)	DATA PROCESSING SERVICES	<u>1,595,570</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$147,997,010</u>

SECTION 4. APPROPRIATION - GRANTS - STATE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Children and Family Services Fund Account, for grant payments of the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services - Grants - State for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	
(01)	FOSTER CARE	\$54,006,830
(02)	STATE RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT	<u>10,647,249</u>
	TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u>\$64,654,079</u>

SECTION 5. APPROPRIATION - TANF - FOSTER CARE. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the paying account as determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State, for grant payments of the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services - TANF - Foster Care for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR	
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>	
(01)	FOSTER CARE	<u>\$102,907,999</u>

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATION - CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION

OPERATIONS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Children’s Trust Fund, for operating expenses and grants or loans for the development or operation of child abuse prevention programs of the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services - Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board 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	\$17,770
(B) CONF. & TRAVEL	0
(C) PROF. FEES	0
(D) CAP. OUTLAY	0
(E) DATA PROC.	0
(02) CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT PREVENTION	
GRANT AND AID/LOANS	<u>197,029</u>
TOTAL AMOUNT APPROPRIATED	<u><u>\$214,799</u></u>

SECTION 7. APPROPRIATION - SAFE HARBOR GRANTS. There is hereby appropriated, to the Department of Human Services, to be payable from the Safe Harbor Fund for Sexually Exploited Children, for grants to Children’s Advocacy Centers statewide for services and treatment for sexually exploited children by the Department of Human Services - Division of Children and Family Services - Safe Harbor Grants for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027, the following:

ITEM	FISCAL YEAR
<u>NO.</u>	<u>2026-2027</u>
(01) SAFE HARBOR GRANTS	<u><u>\$50,000</u></u>

SECTION 8. 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 9. 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 10. 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.