THE CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

2025

Arkansas State Legislative Scorecard

See how Members of Arkansas' General Assembly are voting on economic growth issues.

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THE CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

Club for Growth Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization focused on educating the public about the value of free markets, pro-growth policies, and economic prosperity.

State Scorecards are created by the Club for Growth Foundation to educate the public about the voting records of the legislators who serve in state legislatures. This is part of a larger scorecard project that the Club for Growth Foundation has created to educate the public about the economic positions taken by legislators in states across the country.

Our Mission

THE FOUNDATION EDUCATES THE PUBLIC ABOUT PRO-GROWTH POLICIES.

THE FOUNDATION CONDUCTS COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS OF VOTING RECORDS.

THE FOUNDATION'S GOAL IS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC AND BRING AWARENESS TO LAWMAKERS.

Methodology | Arkansas 2025

Club for Growth Foundation publishes the scorecard study so the public can monitor the actions and the voting behavior of Arkansas' state lawmakers on economic growth issues.

The Foundation conducted a comprehensive examination of each lawmaker's record on votes related to pro-growth policies and computed an Economic Growth Score on a scale of 0 to 100. A score of 100 indicates the highest support for pro-growth policies.

The Foundation examines legislative votes related to the Foundation's immediate pro-economic growth policy goals, including:

- Reducing or eliminating tax rates and enacting tax reform
- Limited government through limited spending and budget reform
- Regulatory reform and deregulation
- Ending abusive lawsuits through medical malpractice and tort reform
- Expanding school choice
- Implementing term limits

Not all of these policy goals will come up for a vote in each legislative session.

The Foundation also examines votes on bills that would directly harm these goals.

This scorecard is based on selected votes of importance to the Foundation, and does not include the complete voting record of any legislator. There are inherent limitations in judging the overall qualifications of any legislator based on a selected voting record, and the Foundation does not endorse or oppose any legislator for public office.

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LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS CONSIDERED IN ARKANSAS IN 2025

The Foundation's study examined over 2,000 floor votes and, in the end, included 20 Arkansas House votes and 20 Arkansas Senate votes.

COMPUTATION

Scores are computed on a scale of 0 to 100. Each vote or action in the rating is assigned a certain number of points depending on its relative importance. If a lawmaker casts a correct vote, the scorecard will denote it with that number. If a lawmaker casts an incorrect vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with a hyphen (-). Absences are not counted – signified as an "X" on the scorecard – though the Foundation reserves the right to do so if, in its judgment, a lawmaker's position was otherwise discernible. If a lawmaker was not officially sworn into office at the time of a vote, the scorecard will denote that vote with an "I".

To provide some additional guidance concerning the scores, each lawmaker was ranked. Aside from ties, lawmakers with 0% scores are, by default, ranked #100 in the House and #35 in the Senate if all lawmakers are present. Scores and ranks cannot be directly compared between the House and Senate, as different votes were taken in each chamber. If applicable, the study also records a "Lifetime Score" for each lawmaker. This is a simple average of the scores from 2025 and all previous years where the lawmaker earned a score.

In some cases, a lawmaker was not present for enough votes for a meaningful score or ranking to be computed. In such cases, "n.a." for "not applicable" appears. In computing lifetime scores, years with "n.a." listed instead of a score are not included. Comparing such scores to other members without "n.a." years may be misleading.

ADDITIONAL FACTORS

A study of roll call votes on the floor of the Arkansas House and Arkansas Senate and legislative actions is just that. It cannot account for a lawmaker's work in committee, advocacy in his party's caucus meetings, and effectiveness as a leader in advocating pro-growth policies.

"Through the release of this series, the Club for Growth Foundation is looking at how state legislatures perform in terms of pro-growth policies. We believe that this scorecard will help inform citizens and entrepreneurs about who supports the policies that are good for economic prosperity."

- DAVID McINTOSH

PRESIDENT, CLUB FOR GROWTH FOUNDATION

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35 MEMBERS

Arkansas Senate Snapshot

29 Republicans

6 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 41%

Average Democrat Score: 17%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

John Payton (SD-22) | 70%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Frederick Love (SD-15) | 29%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Missy Irvin (SD-24) | 28%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRATS

Jamie Scott (SD-12) | 10%

Clarke Tucker (SD-14) | 10%

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Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1017	HB1153	HB1245	HB1303	HB1307	HB1333	HB1424	HB1427	HB1685	HB1751	HB1918	HB1922	HB1935	SB3	SB33	SB64	SB184	SB217	SB392	SB636	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	4	6	3	6	4	5	8	
Boyd, Justin	SD-27	R	32%	37%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Bryant, Joshua	SD-32	R	50%	55%	X	-	X	-	4	-	4	X	7	4	3	8	-	X	-	-	6	4	-	-	7
Caldwell, Ronald	SD-10	R	40%	42%	-	-	X	-	4	-	X	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	5	-	10
Clark, Alan	SD-07	R	57%	54%	-	-	X	-	4	-	4	X	7	4	3	8	-	X	-	-	X	4	5	8	4
Crowell, Steve	SD-03	R	32%	45%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Davis, Breanne	SD-25	R	33%	41%	-	-	-	-	4	-	X	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	16
Dees, Tyler	SD-35	R	39%	48%	-	-	X	-	4	-	4	X	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	11
Dismang, Jonathan	SD-18	R	33%	43%	-	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	7	4	3	-	-	X	-	-	6	4	-	-	16
Dotson, Jim	SD-34	R	57%	69%	-	-	X	5	4	-	4	X	7	4	3	8	6	4	-	-	X	4	-	-	4
English, Jane	SD-13	R	32%	40%	-	-	X	-	4	-	X	-	7	4	3	8	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Flippo, Scott	SD-23	R	43%	52%	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	9
Flowers, Stephanie	SD-08	D	25%	13%	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	X	7	X	X	8	X	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	30
Gilmore, Ben	SD-01	R	32%	45%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Hammer, Kim	SD-16	R	32%	45%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Hester, Bart	SD-33	R	32%	48%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Hickey, Jimmy	SD-04	R	36%	36%	8	-	-	-	4	-	-	X	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	13
Hill, Ricky	SD-11	R	33%	45%	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	16
Irvin, Missy	SD-24	R	28%	41%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	X	4	-	-	29
Johnson, Blake	SD-21	R	32%	40%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Johnson, Mark	SD-17	R	56%	48%	8	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	-	4	-	-	6	4	5	-	6
King, Bryan	SD-28	R	n/a	49%	-	X	-	-	X	-	X	X	7	X	X	8	X	X	X	-	X	4	5	X	

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	4	6	3	6	4	5	8	
Leding, Greg	SD-30	D	15%	9%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	X	-	31
Love, Frederick	SD-15	D	29%	18%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	X	7	-	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	4	X	-	27
McKee, Matt	SD-06	R	35%	53%	-	-	X	-	4	-	-	X	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	14
Murdock, Reginald	SD-09	D	15%	17%	-	-	-	-	4	-	X	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	31
Payton, John	SD-22	R	70%	70%	8	-	-	-	4	-	X	X	7	4	3	8	X	4	-	-	6	4	X	8	1
Penzo, Clint	SD-31	R	63%	66%	X	-	X	-	4	-	4	X	7	4	3	8	X	4	-	-	6	4	5	-	2
Petty, Jim	SD-29	R	29%	43%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	X	-	-	6	4	-	-	27
Rice, Terry	SD-05	R	38%	45%	X	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	X	-	12
Scott, Jamie	SD-12	D	10%	10%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	33
Stone, Matt	SD-02	R	32%	45%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	19
Stubblefield, Gary	SD-26	R	61%	55%	8	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	-	4	-	-	6	4	5	X	3
Sullivan, Dan	SD-20	R	46%	60%	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	-	4	-	-	6	4	5	-	8
Tucker, Clarke	SD-14	D	10%	5%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	33
Wallace, David	SD-19	R	34%	38%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	4	-	-	6	4	-	-	15

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HB 1017

NEW GOVERNMENT PAID LEAVE PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new paid leave benefit for government school employees. Specifically, the legislation provides twelve weeks of paid leave for government school employees who give birth, adopt, or foster a child. The new program is estimated to cost at least $3.4 million, assuming full school district participation and without including adoption and fostering costs. These mandates are regressive and often necessitate new taxes, routinely cost far more than initial estimates, are prone to continued expansion, and compound pressures on already overburdened American workers and taxpayers by facilitating expansive benefits for taxpayer-funded jobs. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 68-19, on April 9, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 27-4, on April 16, 2025.

HB 1153

STATE CHECKOFF PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates tax dollars to numerous state commodity promotion boards. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $34.2 million in FY 2025-2026 to state boards that seize a percentage of rice, soybeans, and wheat grown and sold in a financing scheme that marginalizes smaller farming operations. Checkoff programs allow hand-picked interests in a particular agricultural industry to collude with the government to force their competitors to fund the promotion of their products. These programs serve as government-mandated taxes on smaller businesses and should be abolished. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 96-1, on February 5, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 32-0, on February 6, 2025.

HB 1245

EXPANDED LICENSING SCHEME FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements regulations and registration requirements for professional behavior analysts, building off previously implemented licensing schemes. Specifically, the legislation requires behavior analysts to pay a $200 registration fee, a $150 renewal fee every two years, and a $1,000 fine for failing to register with the Arkansas Psychology Board. Instead of expanding barriers to entry through punitive licensing regimes, lawmakers should instead pare back onerous restrictions that only empower state bureaucrats. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 73-15, on March 31, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-2, on March 17, 2025.

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HB 1303

ABSURD CORPORATE WELFARE HANDOUT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new tax credit for green energy fuel development. Specifically, the legislation establishes an income tax credit for large manufacturers of "sustainable" aviation fuel equal to 30 percent of qualifying purchases up to the lesser of $10 million or the corporation's annual income tax liability. Eligible entities must manufacture jet fuel derived from wood biomass, have manufacturing investments of at least $2 billion, and employ at least 75 full-time workers. The obvious beneficiary of this corporate welfare handout is Dassault Aviation, which builds one of the world's leading private jets. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 83-1, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 32-1, on April 3, 2025.

HB 1307

PROHIBITION ON TAXPAYER-FINANCED ESG INVESTMENTS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prevents individuals, including hedge funds and proxy advisors, responsible for managing the portfolios of taxpayer-funded pensions within the state's two-year and four-year institutions, from abandoning their fiduciary duty in favor of a political agenda. Specifically, the legislation constrains those charged with overseeing the nearly $21 billion in Arkansas' teacher retirement system to only engage with companies for the sole purpose of maximizing shareholder value, as opposed to those that prioritize woke Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) practices. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 88-5, on March 13, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 31-1, on March 10, 2025.

HB 1333

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR LACTATION SERVICES (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a targeted Medicaid service expansion in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation mandates that Medicaid reimburse lactation consultant services, further extending the program's reach into specialized care services. Arkansas unwisely expanded the fraud-prone and costly Medicaid program to healthy adults in 2014, resulting in nearly one-third of Medicaid recipients being able-bodied and the program devouring 30 percent of the state's budget a decade later. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving Arkansans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 82-5, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on April 8, 2025.

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HB 1424

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR OBESITY TREATMENT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements another targeted Medicaid service expansion in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation mandates that Medicaid reimburse bariatric surgeries, gastric banding procedures, revision bariatric procedures if the first procedure fails, and a range of preoperative and postoperative services, thereby further extending the program's reach into specialized care services. There is no limiting principle to the outgrowth of the costly and fraud-prone Medicaid program if such services are foisted onto taxpayers. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving Arkansans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 78-9, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 23-6, on April 8, 2025.

HB 1427

MEDICAID SERVICE EXPANSION PACKAGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements numerous Medicaid service expansions in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation empowers government-designated entities to make preliminary determinations that a pregnant woman qualifies for Medicaid, which then triggers presumptive enrollment into Medicaid. Additionally, the bill expands Medicaid to cover doula services and concierge pregnancy-related services. Estimates suggest that this package will increase the Medicaid baseline by roughly $45 million per year. Just seven years after the Medicaid program was expanded to healthy adults through Obamacare in 2014, total programmatic costs in Arkansas were 178 percent higher than initial projections by 2021. Lawmakers must constrain the growth of this costly and fraud-prone welfare program. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 86-6, on February 12, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-0, on February 18, 2025.

HB 1685

STATE GROCERY TAX REPEAL

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill eliminates the state sales tax on food and food ingredients. Specifically, the legislation repeals the state's 0.125 percent sales tax on food, reducing the tax burden on households and families by an estimated $15.3 million through FY2027. The bill does not eliminate local sales taxes on food and food ingredients. While providing relief from rising grocery prices is important, Arkansas still retains the third-highest sales tax burden in America. Lawmakers should continue implementing broad-based tax cuts, spending cuts, and regulatory rollbacks to foster greater economic opportunity and provide long-term relief to working Arkansans. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 93-0, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on April 14, 2025.

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HB 1751

MODEST WELFARE WORK REQUIREMENTS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill builds off previous welfare reform efforts in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation requires individuals applying for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or the Arkansas Work Pays program to engage in work search activities during the application process. Policy reforms that encourage re-employment lead to a healthier and more productive workforce that reduces poverty and serves as a foundation for sustainable growth. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 81-12, on April 1, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 28-5, on April 9, 2025.

HB 1918

MODEST SOUND MONEY PROTECTIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill makes changes to the state's legal tender law and classification of precious metals. Specifically, the bill allows specie, bullion, and electronic currency to pay debts, taxes, or fees in Arkansas if the state or local government agrees to payment with physical gold or silver. This bill helps ensure gold and silver can serve as an alternative competitive currency to the dollar, as well as provide taxpayers with some potential protection during a significant inflationary or hyperinflationary event. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 89-1, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 33-0, on April 14, 2025.

HB 1922

MASSIVE CORPORATE WELFARE TAX SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands tax carveouts for special interests under the existing investment tax credit program. Specifically, the legislation allows eligible business entities to offset either their income tax liability or sales tax liability, expands the credit to 10 percent of eligible project costs, and creates a new income tax credit for businesses that relocate to Arkansas, equal to 50 percent of payroll for qualifying employees. Further, the bill includes an exorbitant phasedown of the credit's income tax liability offset for relocating businesses, equal to 100 percent for the first five years and 20 percent through year nine. This is flagrant corporate welfare and is a textbook case of the government putting the interests of well-connected companies above those of hardworking citizens. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 67-18, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 22-13, on April 14, 2025.

HB 1935

CRONY MODERNIZATION TAX CREDIT SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new distortionary tax credit for well-connected business interests. Specifically, the legislation establishes a modernization and automation tax credit equal to 5 percent of eligible project costs. The new credit must be approved by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and is capped at $2 million per year for each eligible corporation or business to offset either sales or income tax liability. Additionally, the modernization credit does not have an annual aggregate cap, meaning that this new corporate welfare handout operates as an uncapped program. Lawmakers

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should cease activities that exclusively benefit special interests at the expense of hardworking families and small businesses. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 81-13, on April 9, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 30-1, on April 14, 2025.

SB 3

DISMANTLING TAXPAYER-FUNDED DEI INFRASTRUCTURE

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prohibits state agencies, municipal governments, and elementary and secondary schools from implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives and practices into state employment decisions, curricula, or taxpayer-funded trainings. Specifically, the legislation prohibits the implementation and promotion of Critical Theory identitarianism and race essentialism, as well as contracting with entities that engage in such practices. Hardworking Arkansans should not be compelled to fund government bureaucracies through their tax dollars that engage in explicit discrimination and espouse neo-Marxist concepts. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 65-27, on February 6, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-6, on February 12, 2025.

SB 33

SIGNIFICANT MEDICAID APPROPRIATIONS PACKAGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides spending for the Division of Medical Services. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $10.4 billion for FY2025-2026 for the Arkansas Medicaid program and locks in the numerous new service expansions to niche and specialty providers. Medicaid expansion under Obamacare has been a disaster for Arkansas, with the program devouring one out of every four tax dollars and more than 220,000 healthy, able-bodied adults enrolled in a program originally meant for the indigent. Lawmakers should roll back the Medicaid expansion under Obamacare to cut costs in a program already saddled with poor health outcomes and low quality of care. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 87-2, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 34-0, on April 9, 2025.

SB 64

PUBLIC TELEVISION APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates tax dollars to the Arkansas public television division within the Department of Education. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $18.1 million in FY2025-2026 for state public broadcasting operations. Consumers have an abundance of choices for programming in the free market, underscoring the fact that government-funded television should not exist. This program should be zeroed out. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 76-17, on April 7, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on March 10, 2025.

SB 184

MODEST STATE BUREAUCRACY CONSOLIDATION

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill abolishes a state commission and board. Specifically, the legislation abolishes both the Arkansas Educational Television Commission and the State Library Board and moves the statutory

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responsibilities of both entities within the state's Department of Education. While it would be far better to repeal the functions of these needless entities entirely instead of merely consolidating them, these changes will marginally streamline and reduce the state bureaucracy. The Arkansas Senate passed the bill, 23-8, on February 17, 2025. The Arkansas House did not take it up.

SB 217

FOOD STAMP NUTRITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill imposes new restrictions on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), better known as food stamps. Specifically, the legislation prohibits food stamps from being used to purchase sugary drinks and candy. These reforms are a positive step in ending taxpayer subsidies for junk food, which significantly contribute to rising obesity rates and healthcare costs. This kind of common-sense reform will diminish long-term costs in both federal and state welfare programs. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 78-17, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 29-4, on April 8, 2025.

SB 392

SIGNIFICANT STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OMNIBUS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases salaries for government workers and creates the Arkansas State Employee Student Loan Program. Specifically, the legislation spends $150 million to increase salaries for more than 14,000 state employees and allows state agencies to pay off $10,000 in student loans for their employees in a new open-ended entitlement program. The pay plan is part of the "Arkansas Forward" initiative and was reportedly developed with McKinsey, a Washington D.C.-based consulting firm. Individuals who voluntarily take out student loans to fund their schooling, many of which are already taxpayer-subsidized, should bear the burden of repaying those loans instead of transferring the responsibility for repayment to all taxpayers. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 92-1, on April 2, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 22-7, on April 1, 2025.

SB 636

SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING BINGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates an additional $573 million in spending for the current fiscal year. Specifically, the legislation appropriates massive new funding by tapping into the state's existing surplus, setting a reckless precedent for significantly expanding government through "one-time" appropriations and viewing the state surplus as little more than a government-run piggy bank. The bill allocates $100 million for the Medicaid Sustainability Set Aside Fund, $50 million for corporate welfare projects, $25 million to reward well-connected businesses through the governor's "quick action" economic development program, and $20 million for crony historic renovation handouts. Instead of directing taxpayer money to various slush funds, lawmakers should focus on setting the future baseline to reduce the spending burden on hardworking Arkansans and return surplus funds to the families and entrepreneurs suffering from persistent tax-and-spend policies. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 86-10, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 30-2, on April 15, 2025.

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ARKANSAS HOUSE VOTE DESCRIPTIONS

100 MEMBERS

Arkansas House Snapshot

81 Republicans

19 Democrats

0 Vacancies

Average Republican Score: 40%

Average Democrat Score: 13%

HIGHEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Austin McCollum (HD-8) | 100%

HIGHEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Tara Shephard (HD-79) | 23%

LOWEST-RATED REPUBLICAN

Jeff Wardlaw (HD-94) | 16%

LOWEST-RATED DEMOCRAT

Lincoln Barnett (HD-63) | 3%

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Arkansas 2025 | House Scorecard

Name	District	Party	Score	Lifetime	HB1017	HB1153	HB1245	HB1303	HB1307	HB1333	HB1424	HB1427	HB1685	HB1751	HB1918	HB1922	HB1930	HB1935	SB3	SB33	SB64	SB217	SB392	SB636	Rank
PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	
Achor, Brandon	HD-071	R	23%	38%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	73
Allen, Fred	HD-077	D	4%	18%	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	X	X	3	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	99
Andrews, Wade	HD-098	R	30%	56%	X	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	X	4	-	-	48
Barker, Sonia	HD-096	R	27%	41%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	X	X	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	59
Barnes, Glenn	HD-065	D	11%	11%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	X	X	3	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	94
Barnett, Lincoln	HD-063	D	3%	3%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	X	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	100
Beaty, Howard	HD-095	R	35%	47%	8	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	30
Beck, Rick	HD-043	R	29%	54%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	X	-	4	-	X	4	-	-	51
Bentley, Mary	HD-054	R	27%	45%	-	-	-	-	4	X	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	59
Berry, Stan	HD-044	R	31%	51%	-	-	-	-	4	-	X	-	7	4	X	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	44
Breaux, Harlan	HD-006	R	30%	46%	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	48
Brooks, Keith	HD-078	R	32%	42%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Brown, Alyssa	HD-041	R	73%	73%	X	-	3	-	4	-	X	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	X	3	4	-	8	8
Brown, Karilyn	HD-067	R	40%	44%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	26
Brown, Matt	HD-055	R	32%	46%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Burkes, Nick	HD-014	R	67%	67%	8	-	3	-	4	X	4	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	-	3	4	-	-	11
Burkes, Rebecca	HD-011	R	84%	80%	8	-	3	X	4	X	X	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	X	3	4	-	8	3
Carr, Joey	HD-034	R	28%	34%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	53
Carr, John	HD-015	R	44%	62%	X	-	-	-	4	X	X	-	7	4	3	X	6	-	4	-	X	4	-	-	23
Cavenaugh, Frances	HD-030	R	28%	51%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	53
Childress, Paul	HD-083	R	32%	32%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	
Clowney, Nicole	HD-021	D	18%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	83
Collins, Andrew	HD-073	D	18%	16%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	83
Cooper, Cameron	HD-057	R	58%	66%	8	-	3	-	4	-	X	X	7	4	3	X	6	X	4	-	X	4	-	-	16
Cozart, Bruce	HD-091	R	28%	36%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	X	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	53
Crawford, Cindy	HD-051	R	30%	38%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	X	-	4	-	X	4	-	-	48
Dalby, Carol	HD-100	R	23%	32%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	73
Duffield, Matt	HD-053	R	34%	44%	X	-	-	-	4	-	4	X	7	4	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	X	32
Duke, Hope	HD-012	R	96%	89%	8	-	3	X	4	4	4	5	7	4	X	X	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	2
Eaton, James	HD-026	R	43%	43%	8	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	7	4	X	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	24
Eaves, Les	HD-058	R	29%	39%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	51
Ennett, Denise	HD-080	D	14%	7%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91
Eubanks, Jon	HD-046	R	20%	37%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	81
Evans, Brian	HD-068	R	24%	41%	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	X	4	3	-	X	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	70
Ferguson, Ken	HD-064	D	20%	25%	-	-	-	-	X	X	X	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	81
Furman, Tony	HD-082	R	51%	62%	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	X	3	8	6	-	4	X	3	4	X	-	20
Garner, Denise	HD-020	D	10%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
Gazaway, Jimmy	HD-031	R	32%	38%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	X	7	4	3	X	X	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Gonzales Worthen, Diana	HD-009	D	14%	14%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	91
Gonzales, Justin	HD-089	R	68%	74%	8	-	3	-	4	4	4	-	X	4	3	8	6	-	4	-	3	4	-	8	10
Gramlich, Zack	HD-050	R	31%	45%	-	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	X	X	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	44
Hall, Brad	HD-024	R	40%	40%	X	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	X	X	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	26
Hawk, RJ	HD-081	R	32%	47%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34

Arkansas 2025 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	
Henley, Dolly	HD-088	R	26%	26%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Holcomb, Mike	HD-093	R	26%	36%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Hollowell, Steve	HD-037	R	23%	37%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	X	-	-	73
Hudson, Ashley	HD-075	D	15%	14%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	X	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88
Jean, Lane	HD-099	R	22%	39%	X	-	-	-	4	X	X	-	X	4	3	-	X	-	4	-	-	X	-	-	78
Johnson, Lee	HD-047	R	26%	34%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Ladyman, Jack	HD-032	R	37%	43%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	28
Long, Wayne	HD-039	R	75%	78%	8	-	3	X	4	X	-	X	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	X	3	4	-	-	7
Lundstrum, Robin	HD-018	R	66%	70%	8	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	6	X	4	-	3	4	-	8	12
Lynch, Roger	HD-060	R	26%	38%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Maddox, John	HD-086	R	26%	47%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Magie, Stephen	HD-056	D	11%	13%	-	-	X	-	X	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	94
Mayberry, Julie	HD-092	R	31%	51%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	7	4	3	X	-	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	44
McAlindon, Mindy	HD-010	R	52%	67%	-	-	X	-	4	X	X	-	7	4	3	8	6	-	4	X	3	4	-	-	18
McClure, Rick	HD-029	R	35%	49%	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	30
McCollum, Austin	HD-008	R	100%	94%	8	3	X	X	4	X	X	X	7	4	X	X	6	6	4	6	3	4	X	8	1
McCullough, Tippi	HD-074	D	10%	12%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	96
McElroy, Mark	HD-062	R	22%	39%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	78
McGrew, Richard	HD-085	R	55%	56%	8	-	X	-	4	X	X	X	7	4	3	-	6	6	4	-	-	4	-	-	17
McGruder, Jessie	HD-035	D	15%	15%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	X	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88
McKenzie, Brit	HD-007	R	71%	69%	X	-	X	-	4	-	-	X	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	X	-	4	X	X	9
McNair, Ron	HD-005	R	28%	35%	-	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	X	-	53

Arkansas 2025 | House Scorecard (Continued)

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	
Meeks, Stephen	HD-042	R	24%	47%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	X	X	-	4	-	-	70
Milligan, Jon	HD-033	R	49%	57%	X	-	-	X	4	X	X	-	7	4	X	X	X	X	4	X	X	4	-	-	22
Moore, Jeremiah	HD-061	R	24%	41%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	X	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	70
Moore, Kendra	HD-023	R	31%	39%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	44
Nazarenko, Jason	HD-004	R	32%	32%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Painter, Stetson	HD-003	R	32%	47%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Pearce, Shad	HD-040	R	26%	39%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Perry, Mark	HD-066	D	15%	18%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	X	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	88
Pilkington, Aaron	HD-045	R	43%	63%	-	-	X	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	-	6	4	-	-	4	-	-	24
Puryear, Chad	HD-025	R	76%	77%	8	-	3	-	4	4	4	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	-	3	4	-	8	6
Ray, David	HD-069	R	80%	81%	8	X	3	5	4	X	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	-	3	4	-	-	4
Richardson, Jay	HD-049	D	12%	13%	-	-	-	X	X	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	93
Richardson, R. Scott	HD-013	R	62%	69%	8	-	3	-	4	4	4	-	7	4	3	8	6	-	4	-	3	4	-	-	14
Richmond, Marcus	HD-052	R	28%	41%	X	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	53
Rose, Ryan	HD-048	R	65%	70%	8	-	X	X	4	-	X	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	-	3	4	-	-	13
Rye, Johnny	HD-036	R	32%	44%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Schulz, Bart	HD-028	R	26%	43%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Shephard, Tara	HD-079	D	23%	11%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	-	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	73
Shepherd, Matthew	HD-097	R	23%	23%	-	-	-	X	4	-	-	-	7	4	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	73
Springer, Joy	HD-076	D	16%	8%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	X	3	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	86
Steele, Tracy	HD-072	D	17%	17%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	7	-	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85
Steimel, Trey	HD-002	R	28%	41%	-	-	-	-	4	X	X	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	53

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PRO-GROWTH POSITION					N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	
POINTS					8	3	3	5	4	4	4	5	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	6	3	4	5	8	
Torres, Randy	HD-017	R	52%	52%	8	-	3	-	4	-	-	X	7	4	3	-	6	X	4	-	3	4	-	-	18
Tosh, Dwight	HD-038	R	37%	49%	X	-	X	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	X	4	-	-	28
Underwood, Kendon	HD-016	R	79%	82%	8	X	3	X	4	4	4	-	7	4	3	8	6	6	4	X	3	4	-	-	5
Unger, Steve	HD-019	R	51%	56%	8	-	-	-	4	-	4	-	7	4	3	X	6	X	4	-	-	4	-	-	20
Vaught, DeAnn	HD-087	R	21%	42%	-	-	-	-	X	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	X	-	X	-	-	4	-	-	80
Walker, Steven	HD-027	R	26%	41%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Wardlaw, Jeff	HD-094	R	16%	46%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	X	4	3	-	-	-	-	X	-	X	X	X	86
Warren, Les	HD-084	R	26%	37%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	61
Whitaker, David	HD-022	D	7%	11%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	98
Wing, Carlton	HD-070	R	32%	43%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Womack, Richard	HD-090	R	62%	68%	8	-	3	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	8	6	-	4	-	3	4	-	8	14
Wooldridge, Jeremy	HD-001	R	32%	42%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	7	4	3	-	6	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	34
Wooten, Jim	HD-059	R	33%	31%	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	5	7	4	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	33

Arkansas 2025 | House Vote Descriptions

HB 1017

NEW GOVERNMENT PAID LEAVE PROGRAM

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new paid leave benefit for government school employees. Specifically, the legislation provides twelve weeks of paid leave for government school employees who give birth, adopt, or foster a child. The new program is estimated to cost at least $3.4 million, assuming full school district participation and without including adoption and fostering costs. These mandates are regressive and often necessitate new taxes, routinely cost far more than initial estimates, are prone to continued expansion, and compound pressures on already overburdened American workers and taxpayers by facilitating expansive benefits for taxpayer-funded jobs. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 68-19, on April 9, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 27-4, on April 16, 2025.

HB 1153

STATE CHECKOFF PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates tax dollars to numerous state commodity promotion boards. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $34.2 million in FY 2025-2026 to state boards that seize a percentage of rice, soybeans, and wheat grown and sold in a financing scheme that marginalizes smaller farming operations. Checkoff programs allow hand-picked interests in a particular agricultural industry to collude with the government to force their competitors to fund the promotion of their products. These programs serve as government-mandated taxes on smaller businesses and should be abolished. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 96-1, on February 5, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 32-0, on February 6, 2025.

HB 1245

EXPANDED LICENSING SCHEME FOR BEHAVIOR ANALYSTS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements regulations and registration requirements for professional behavior analysts, building off previously implemented licensing schemes. Specifically, the legislation requires behavior analysts to pay a $200 registration fee, a $150 renewal fee every two years, and a $1,000 fine for failing to register with the Arkansas Psychology Board. Instead of expanding barriers to entry through punitive licensing regimes, lawmakers should instead pare back onerous restrictions that only empower state bureaucrats. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 73-15, on March 31, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-2, on March 17, 2025.

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HB 1303

ABSURD CORPORATE WELFARE HANDOUT (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new tax credit for green energy fuel development. Specifically, the legislation establishes an income tax credit for large manufacturers of "sustainable" aviation fuel equal to 30 percent of qualifying purchases up to the lesser of $10 million or the corporation's annual income tax liability. Eligible entities must manufacture jet fuel derived from wood biomass, have manufacturing investments of at least $2 billion, and employ at least 75 full-time workers. The obvious beneficiary of this corporate welfare handout is Dassault Aviation, which builds one of the world's leading private jets. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 83-1, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 32-1, on April 3, 2025.

HB 1307

PROHIBITION ON TAXPAYER-FINANCED ESG INVESTMENTS (CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prevents individuals, including hedge funds and proxy advisors, responsible for managing the portfolios of taxpayer-funded pensions within the state's two-year and four-year institutions, from abandoning their fiduciary duty in favor of a political agenda. Specifically, the legislation constrains those charged with overseeing the nearly $21 billion in Arkansas' teacher retirement system to only engage with companies for the sole purpose of maximizing shareholder value, as opposed to those that prioritize woke Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) practices. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 88-5, on March 13, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 31-1, on March 10, 2025.

HB 1333

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR LACTATION SERVICES (CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements a targeted Medicaid service expansion in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation mandates that Medicaid reimburse lactation consultant services, further extending the program's reach into specialized care services. Arkansas unwisely expanded the fraud-prone and costly Medicaid program to healthy adults in 2014, resulting in nearly one-third of Medicaid recipients being able-bodied and the program devouring 30 percent of the state's budget a decade later. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving Arkansans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 82-5, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on April 8, 2025.

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HB 1424

MEDICAID EXPANSION FOR OBESITY TREATMENT

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements another targeted Medicaid service expansion in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation mandates that Medicaid reimburse bariatric surgeries, gastric banding procedures, revision bariatric procedures if the first procedure fails, and a range of preoperative and postoperative services, thereby further extending the program's reach into specialized care services. There is no limiting principle to the outgrowth of the costly and fraud-prone Medicaid program if such services are foisted onto taxpayers. Lawmakers should focus on constraining the growth of Medicaid and moving Arkansans toward a patient-centered, free-market model of healthcare, rather than implementing policies that benefit government bureaucracies and foster cycles of dependence. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 78-9, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 23-6, on April 8, 2025.

HB 1427

MEDICAID SERVICE EXPANSION PACKAGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill implements numerous Medicaid service expansions in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation empowers government-designated entities to make preliminary determinations that a pregnant woman qualifies for Medicaid, which then triggers presumptive enrollment into Medicaid. Additionally, the bill expands Medicaid to cover doula services and concierge pregnancy-related services. Estimates suggest that this package will increase the Medicaid baseline by roughly $45 million per year. Just seven years after the Medicaid program was expanded to healthy adults through Obamacare in 2014, total programmatic costs in Arkansas were 178 percent higher than initial projections by 2021. Lawmakers must constrain the growth of this costly and fraud-prone welfare program. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 86-6, on February 12, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-0, on February 18, 2025.

HB 1685

STATE GROCERY TAX REPEAL

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill eliminates the state sales tax on food and food ingredients. Specifically, the legislation repeals the state's 0.125 percent sales tax on food, reducing the tax burden on households and families by an estimated $15.3 million through FY2027. The bill does not eliminate local sales taxes on food and food ingredients. While providing relief from rising grocery prices is important, Arkansas still retains the third-highest sales tax burden in America. Lawmakers should continue implementing broad-based tax cuts, spending cuts, and regulatory rollbacks to foster greater economic opportunity and provide long-term relief to working Arkansans. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 93-0, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on April 14, 2025.

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HB 1751

MODEST WELFARE WORK REQUIREMENTS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill builds off previous welfare reform efforts in Arkansas. Specifically, the legislation requires individuals applying for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program or the Arkansas Work Pays program to engage in work search activities during the application process. Policy reforms that encourage re-employment lead to a healthier and more productive workforce that reduces poverty and serves as a foundation for sustainable growth. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 81-12, on April 1, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 28-5, on April 9, 2025.

HB 1918

MODEST SOUND MONEY PROTECTIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill makes changes to the state's legal tender law and classification of precious metals. Specifically, the bill allows specie, bullion, and electronic currency to pay debts, taxes, or fees in Arkansas if the state or local government agrees to payment with physical gold or silver. This bill helps ensure gold and silver can serve as an alternative competitive currency to the dollar, as well as provide taxpayers with some potential protection during a significant inflationary or hyperinflationary event. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 89-1, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 33-0, on April 14, 2025.

HB 1922

MASSIVE CORPORATE WELFARE TAX SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill significantly expands tax carveouts for special interests under the existing investment tax credit program. Specifically, the legislation allows eligible business entities to offset either their income tax liability or sales tax liability, expands the credit to 10 percent of eligible project costs, and creates a new income tax credit for businesses that relocate to Arkansas, equal to 50 percent of payroll for qualifying employees. Further, the bill includes an exorbitant phasedown of the credit's income tax liability offset for relocating businesses, equal to 100 percent for the first five years and 20 percent through year nine. This is flagrant corporate welfare and is a textbook case of the government putting the interests of well-connected companies above those of hardworking citizens. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 67-18, on April 8, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 22-13, on April 14, 2025.

HB 1930

COST-DRIVING HEALTH INSURANCE MANDATE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill imposes a massive new healthcare mandate on insurers. Specifically, the legislation sets a minimum 85 percent reimbursement rate for providers beginning in 2026, which increases to 100 percent by 2028. This new mandate requires health benefit plans to significantly increase payments to doctors, hospitals, and other physicians in Arkansas while requiring the

state insurance commissioner to determine the weighted average ratio of commercial prices in adjoining states. The result of this new mandate will be significantly higher premiums imposed on hardworking Arkansans to offset the new reimbursement increases. Instead of fleecing taxpayers with additional cost-driving mandates that reward bureaucracies at the expense of patient-centered care, lawmakers should roll back onerous healthcare regulations. The Arkansas House rejected the bill, 44-45, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate did not take it up.

HB 1935

CRONY MODERNIZATION TAX CREDIT SCHEME

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill creates a new distortionary tax credit for well-connected business interests. Specifically, the legislation establishes a modernization and automation tax credit equal to 5 percent of eligible project costs. The new credit must be approved by the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and is capped at $2 million per year for each eligible corporation or business to offset either sales or income tax liability. Additionally, the modernization credit does not have an annual aggregate cap, meaning that this new corporate welfare handout operates as an uncapped program. Lawmakers should cease activities that exclusively benefit special interests at the expense of hardworking families and small businesses. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 81-13, on April 9, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 30-1, on April 14, 2025.

SB 3

DISMANTLING TAXPAYER-FUNDED DEI INFRASTRUCTURE

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill prohibits state agencies, municipal governments, and elementary and secondary schools from implementing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives and practices into state employment decisions, curricula, or taxpayer-funded trainings. Specifically, the legislation prohibits the implementation and promotion of Critical Theory identitarianism and race essentialism, as well as contracting with entities that engage in such practices. Hardworking Arkansans should not be compelled to fund government bureaucracies through their tax dollars that engage in explicit discrimination and espouse neo-Marxist concepts. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 65-27, on February 6, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 24-6, on February 12, 2025.

SB 33

SIGNIFICANT MEDICAID APPROPRIATIONS PACKAGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill provides spending for the Division of Medical Services. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $10.4 billion for FY2025-2026 for the Arkansas Medicaid program and locks in the numerous new service expansions to niche and specialty providers. Medicaid expansion under Obamacare has been a disaster for Arkansas, with the program devouring one out of every

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four tax dollars and more than 220,000 healthy, able-bodied adults enrolled in a program originally meant for the indigent. Lawmakers should roll back the Medicaid expansion under Obamacare to cut costs in a program already saddled with poor health outcomes and low quality of care. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 87-2, on April 10, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 34-0, on April 9, 2025.

SB 64

PUBLIC TELEVISION APPROPRIATIONS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill appropriates tax dollars to the Arkansas public television division within the Department of Education. Specifically, the legislation appropriates $18.1 million in FY2025-2026 for state public broadcasting operations. Consumers have an abundance of choices for programming in the free market, underscoring the fact that government-funded television should not exist. This program should be zeroed out. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 76-17, on April 7, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 35-0, on March 10, 2025.

SB 217

FOOD STAMP NUTRITIONAL RESTRICTIONS

(CFGF SUPPORTS)

This bill imposes new restrictions on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), better known as food stamps. Specifically, the legislation prohibits food stamps from being used to purchase sugary drinks and candy. These reforms are a positive step in ending taxpayer subsidies for junk food, which significantly contribute to rising obesity rates and healthcare costs. This kind of common-sense reform will diminish long-term costs in both federal and state welfare programs. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 78-17, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 29-4, on April 8, 2025.

SB 392

SIGNIFICANT STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT OMNIBUS

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill increases salaries for government workers and creates the Arkansas State Employee Student Loan Program. Specifically, the legislation spends $150 million to increase salaries for more than 14,000 state employees and allows state agencies to pay off $10,000 in student loans for their employees in a new open-ended entitlement program. The pay plan is part of the "Arkansas Forward" initiative and was reportedly developed with McKinsey, a Washington D.C.-based consulting firm. Individuals who voluntarily take out student loans to fund their schooling, many of which are already taxpayer-subsidized, should bear the burden of repaying those loans instead of transferring the responsibility for repayment to all taxpayers. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 92-1, on April 2, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 22-7, on April 1, 2025.

SB 636

SUPPLEMENTAL SPENDING BINGE

(CFGF OPPOSES)

This bill allocates an additional $573 million in spending for the current fiscal year. Specifically, the legislation appropriates massive new funding by tapping into the state's existing

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surplus, setting a reckless precedent for significantly expanding government through "one-time" appropriations and viewing the state surplus as little more than a government-run piggy bank. The bill allocates $100 million for the Medicaid Sustainability Set Aside Fund, $50 million for corporate welfare projects, $25 million to reward well-connected businesses through the governor's "quick action" economic development program, and $20 million for crony historic renovation handouts. Instead of directing taxpayer money to various slush funds, lawmakers should focus on setting the future baseline to reduce the spending burden on hardworking Arkansans and return surplus funds to the families and entrepreneurs suffering from persistent tax-and-spend policies. The Arkansas House passed the bill, 86-10, on April 16, 2025. The Arkansas Senate passed it, 30-2, on April 15, 2025.

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