STATE OF ARKANSAS
House of Representatives

Arkansas House Newsletter

April 17, 2026

2026 Fiscal Session Week 2



The House completed its second week of the 2026 Fiscal Session with a focus on both the state budget and a proposal aimed at providing additional property tax relief for Arkansans.

In a 92–0 vote, members approved HR1006, a resolution that would allow for the introduction of a non-appropriation bill to increase the homestead property tax credit. During a fiscal session, legislation outside of the budget requires approval by a two-thirds majority in both chambers before it can be filed. If the Senate also approves the resolution, a bill will be introduced to raise the credit from $600 to $675.

The homestead property tax credit was established in 2000 after Arkansas voters approved Amendment 79. The credit for qualifying homeowners is funded through the Property Tax Relief Trust Fund, which is supported by a half-cent sales tax. Over time, revenues to the fund have exceeded original projections, creating opportunities for lawmakers to revisit and adjust the credit amount. Most recently, the General Assembly passed Act 330 during the 2025 Regular Session, increasing the credit from $500 to $600.

Budget work also continued in earnest this week. In the Joint Budget Committee, members approved an appropriation of $1 million for contraband interdiction and corrections intelligence technology within the Department of Corrections. This investment is aimed at detecting and preventing illegal wireless device activity in correctional facilities. It is important to note that appropriation bills authorize spending only when funds are available; they do not allocate funding themselves. Actual distribution of funds is determined through the Revenue Stabilization Act.

The House also passed several appropriation bills for state boards, commissions, and colleges as the fiscal session continues.

The House will reconvene on Tuesday, April 21. You can watch all committee meetings at House floor proceedings at www.arkansashouse.org.