

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4
5 By: Senator G. Jeffress
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A Bill

SENATE BILL 881

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO DEFINE THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE
10 ARRAY OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR AT-RISK,
11 DELINQUENT AND FAMILIES IN NEED OF SERVICES
12 YOUTH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

15 TO DEFINE THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE
16 ARRAY OF COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES FOR
17 AT-RISK, DELINQUENT AND FAMILIES IN NEED
18 OF SERVICES YOUTH.

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

SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds:

24 (1) That the State of Arkansas contracts with community-based
25 programs serving at-risk, delinquent and families in need of services youth,
26 as quasi-governmental instrumentalities of the state, to provide a service
27 that the state would otherwise provide for this population through state-
28 operated programs and facilities.

29 (2) That under §§ 9-28-201 - 9-28-217, the Division of Youth
30 Services is established within the Department of Human Services and required
31 to provide community-based alternative basic services consisting without
32 limitation of:

- 33 (A) Prevention;
34 (B) Intervention;
35 (C) Casework;
36 (D) Treatment;



- (E) Counseling;
- (F) Observation and assessment;
- (G) Case management; and
- (H) Residential services.

(3) That the primary goals for community-based alternative basic services shall be the prevention of youth from entering the juvenile justice system and the provision of professional, community-based, least-cost services to youth.

(4) That the division of Youth Services can provide other specific programs for alcohol, drug, or sex offenders, special therapeutic treatment programs, or client-specific services where a consistent population has been defined as in need of multidiscipline care and services, and expansion of proven, effective early intervention and prevention program activities.

SECTION 2. As used in this act, "local community providers" means:

(1) A private, nonprofit corporation program and its affiliates that have at least five (5) years of experience delivering comprehensive community-based youth services to the Arkansas Division of Youth Services.

(2) "Local community providers" are required to have delivered comprehensive community-based youth services to youth five (5) years of age to twenty-one (21) years of age, of a defined geographic area, and have provided as a minimum:

- (A) Prevention;
- (B) Intervention;
- (C) Casework;
- (D) Treatment;
- (E) Counseling;
- (F) Observation and assessment;
- (G) Case management; and
- (H) Residential services.

SECTION 3. (a) The Division of Youth Services is to acquire services for at-risk, delinquent, and families in need of services youth by agreements with local community providers or other agencies or individuals deemed professionally capable and appropriate to deliver such services.

1 (b) The purchasing standards established by the division shall not
2 require competitive bids for contracts for professional services in the
3 community-based youth services fields.
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5 SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the
6 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that community-based youth service
7 programs are struggling to attain the resources necessary to provide youth
8 with community-based services to which they are entitled by federal and state
9 mandates that they rightfully deserve; that the state has had a group of
10 community-based providers deliver youth services to the Division of Youth
11 Services for many years and they should be recognized as the state agents for
12 this service; and that this act is immediately necessary because those
13 agencies should not have to go through the expense or time-consuming work to
14 be part of a competitive bid process. Therefore, an emergency is declared to
15 exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the
16 public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

17 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

18 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,
19 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the
20 bill; or

21 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden,
22 the date the last house overrides the veto.
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