

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

Act 358 of the Regular Session

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009
4

As Engrossed: S2/23/09

A Bill

SENATE BILL 343

5 By: Senator Crumbly
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8 **For An Act To Be Entitled**

9 AN ACT TO CONFRONT DISPARITIES IN HEALTH AND
10 LENGTH OF LIFE AMONG CITIZENS OF ARKANSAS; AND
11 FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12

13 **Subtitle**

14 AN ACT TO CONFRONT DISPARITIES IN HEALTH
15 AND LENGTH OF LIFE AMONG CITIZENS OF
16 ARKANSAS.
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18

19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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21 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-2-103 is amended to read as follows:*

22 *20-2-103. Powers and duties generally.*

23 *The Arkansas Minority Health Commission shall:*

24 *(1) Study issues relating to the delivery of and access to*
25 *health services for minorities in this state;*

26 *(2) Identify any gaps in the health service delivery system that*
27 *particularly affect minorities;*

28 *(3) Make recommendations to the relevant agencies and to the*
29 *General Assembly for improving the delivery of and access to health services*
30 *for minorities; ~~and~~*

31 *(4) Study and make recommendations as to whether adequate*
32 *services are available to ensure that future minority health needs will be*
33 *met;*

34 *(5)(A) Develop, implement, maintain, and disseminate a*
35 *comprehensive survey of racial and ethnic minority disparities in health and*



1 health care.

2 (B) The commission shall repeat the study every five (5)
3 years to include without limitation disparities arising from geographic
4 location and economic conditions; and

5 (6) Publish evidence-based data, define state goals and
6 objectives, and develop pilot projects for decreasing disparities under
7 subdivision (5)(A) of this section.

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9 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 2, Subchapter 1 is amended
10 to add an additional section to read as follows:

11 20-2-107. Report on health disparities.

12 On or before October 1 each year, the Arkansas Minority Health
13 Commission shall report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the chair of the
15 House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor, and the chair of the
16 Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor without limitation:

17 (1) Summarizing the previous year's work under § 20-2-103(5) and
18 (6);

19 (2) Describing reductions in disparities in health and health
20 care in this state; and

21 (3) Outlining plans for continuing and expanding in the coming
22 year the program to reduce disparities in health and health care in this
23 state.

24
25 /s/ Crumbly

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27 APPROVED: 3/10/2009