

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

As Engrossed: S2/19/19

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 314

5 By: Senator B. Sample  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT CONCERNING PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS MADE TO A  
9 CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT MEMBER BY AN EMERGENCY  
10 RESPONDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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### Subtitle

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13 CONCERNING PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS MADE  
14 TO A CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT MEMBER BY AN  
15 EMERGENCY RESPONDER.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-40-106(a), concerning the definitions of*  
22 *"certified peer support member" and "peer support event", is amended to read*  
23 *as follows:*

24 (a) *As used in this section:*

25 (1) "Approved training" means training including, at a minimum,  
26 the following subjects:

27 (A) The core elements of critical incident stress  
28 management, including how to help a person understand the need for further  
29 assistance;

30 (B) Psychological crisis and psychological crisis  
31 intervention;

32 (C) The individual aspects of a peer support event and how  
33 to work with the aspects of a peer support event through resistance,  
34 resiliency, and recovery;

35 (D) Situational crisis intervention with individual  
36 persons and groups;



1 (E) Practical communication skills and techniques to  
2 assist a person in a crisis situation;

3 (F) How a person reacts in a crisis and how to understand  
4 and work with the person in an intervention mode;

5 (G) Mechanisms to assist in dealing with a person in a  
6 crisis situation;

7 (H) Practical tools to use to work with individual persons  
8 and groups in a crisis situation; and

9 (I) Recognizing issues that may lead a person to have  
10 suicidal thoughts;

11 (2) "Certified peer support member" means a law enforcement  
12 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician of an emergency service  
13 agency or entity who has received approved training certified by the Arkansas  
14 Crisis Response Team, the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards  
15 and Training, or the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board in critical  
16 incident stress management and who is ~~certified as a peer support member by~~  
17 ~~the Arkansas Crisis Response Team~~ qualified to provide emotional or moral  
18 support to an emergency responder who needs emotional or moral support as a  
19 result of job-related stress or an incident in which the emergency responder  
20 was involved while acting in his or her official capacity; and

21 ~~(2)~~(3) "Peer support event" means any debriefing, defusing, or  
22 counseling session conducted by a certified peer support member that involves  
23 the emotional or moral support of an emergency responder who needs emotional  
24 or moral support as a result of job-related stress or an incident in which  
25 the emergency responder was involved while acting in his or her official  
26 capacity.

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29 /s/B. Sample

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32 **APPROVED: 3/26/19**