State of Arkansas

As Engrossed:  S3/12/13 S3/25/13 S4/3/13

A Bill

Regular Session, 2013

SENATE BILL 818

By: Senators G. Stubblefield, A. Clark, J. Dismang, Hester, B. King, Rapert

By: Representatives Alexander, Ballinger, Dotson, Fite, Harris, D. Meeks, S. Meeks, Miller, Neal, Womack

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO BAR THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY THE STATE TO CERTAIN ENTITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO BAR THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS BY THE STATE TO CERTAIN ENTITIES.

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) The State of Arkansas facilitates the disbursement of both state and federal funds to qualifying entities for purposes of conducting certain activities;

(2) Public dollars awarded to qualifying entities may facilitate or subsidize directly or indirectly expenses or activities not directly related to those for which the funds were intended, including without limitation shared administrative costs, overhead, employee salaries, rent, utilities, and various other expenses;

(3) It is possible that public dollars made available by or through the State of Arkansas may be awarded to an entity that performs elective abortions or subsidizes or otherwise facilitates the entity’s ability to perform elective abortions although the funds were not disbursed specifically for the purpose of performing elective abortions;

(4) Amendment 68 to the Arkansas Constitution of 1874 says, "No
public funds will be used to pay for any abortion, except to save the
mother's life';

(5) The direct or indirect subsidization or facilitation of
abortion with funds distributed by the state constitutes paying for an
abortion, and, therefore, conflicts with Amendment 68 to the Arkansas
Constitution of 1874;

(6) As elected representatives of the people of Arkansas, the
members of the General Assembly are entrusted with ensuring that all
activities conducted with the aid of public funds are in accordance with the
wishes of the people of Arkansas and the intent of the laws of this state;
and

(7) It is within the purview of the General Assembly to
establish criteria as the basis on which public funds are disbursed.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 16, is amended to add an
additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 13 — Advanci
20-16-1301. Definitions.

As used in this subchapter:

(A) "Abortion" means the act of using or prescribing an
instrument, medicine, drug, another substance, device, or means with the
intent to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy of a woman with
knowledge that the termination by those means will with reasonable likelihood
cause the death of the unborn child.

(B) "Abortion" does not include the act of using or
prescribing any instrument, medicine, drug, another substance, device, or
means with the intent to terminate the clinically diagnosable pregnancy if
done with the intent to:

(i) Save the life of the mother;

(ii) Save the life or preserve the health of the
unborn child;

(iii) Remove a dead unborn child caused by
spontaneous abortion; or

(iv) Remove an ectopic pregnancy;

(2) "Abortion referral" means the act of recommending a pregnant
woman to a doctor, clinic, or other person or entity for the purpose of obtaining or learning about obtaining an abortion;

(3) "Affiliate" means an individual or entity that has a legal relationship with another entity, which relation is created or governed by at least one (1) written instrument that demonstrates:

(A) Common ownership, management, or control;
(B) A franchise; or
(C) The granting or extension of a license or other agreement that authorizes the affiliate to use other entity’s brand name, trademark, service mark, or other registered identification mark;

(3) "Pregnancy" means that female reproductive condition of having an unborn child in the woman’s uterus; and

(4) "Unborn child" means the offspring of human beings from fertilization until birth.

20-16-1302. Awarding of public funds to entities that perform abortions prohibited.

An agency or instrumentality of the state shall not award a grant to an entity that:

(1) Performs abortions or provides abortion referrals;
(2) Contracts with a person or entity that performs abortions or abortion referrals; or
(3) Is an affiliate of a person or entity that performs abortions or abortion referrals.


(a)(1) This subchapter does not affect the funding of a hospital, medical school, or university.

(2) The restrictions under § 20-16-1302 do not apply to funding available through the Medicaid program.

(b) This subchapter does not create or recognize a right to an abortion.

(c) This subchapter does not create or recognize a right to public funds, a contract, or a grant.

(d) If a court determines that a provision of this subchapter or the application of this subchapter is invalid, the determination shall not affect
the provisions or applications of this subchapter that can be given effect
without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions
of this subchapter are severable.

/s/G. Stubblefield