

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 220

4  
5 By: Senator Madison

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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8 AN ACT TO ABOLISH THE COMMON LAW NECESSARIES  
9 DOCTRINE; TO MAKE A HUSBAND AND A WIFE EQUALLY LIABLE  
10 FOR DEBTS ARISING FROM THE COMMON NECESSARIES OF  
11 LIFE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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15 AN ACT TO MAKE A HUSBAND AND A WIFE  
16 EQUALLY LIABLE FOR DEBTS ARISING FROM THE  
17 COMMON NECESSITIES OF LIFE.

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

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22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 11, Subchapter 5 is amended  
23 to add an additional section to read as follows:

24 9-11-516. Common law necessities doctrine abolished.

25 (a) The common law necessities doctrine is abolished and shall not be  
26 recognized by any court of this state.

27 (b) If a spouse incurs a debt for the common necessities of life,  
28 including without limitation, a debt for necessary medical care, each spouse  
29 is personally liable for the debt.

