

1 State of Arkansas As Engrossed: H3/18/19 H3/19/19

2 92nd General Assembly

A Bill

3 Regular Session, 2019

HOUSE BILL 1664

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5 By: Representatives Crawford, Dotson

6 By: Senator B. Ballinger

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LIFE CHOICES LIFELINE
PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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12

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Subtitle

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TO ESTABLISH THE LIFE CHOICES LIFELINE
PROGRAM.

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

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20 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 8, is amended to add an
21 additional subchapter to read as follows:

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Subchapter 9 – The Life Choices Lifeline Program

23

24 20-8-901. The Life Choices Lifeline Program.

25

26 (a) The Department of Health may implement the Life Choices Lifeline
27 Program as a statewide care program to provide direct services, support,
28 social services case management, and referrals to biological parents of
29 unborn children and biological or adoptive parents of children under two (2)
30 years of age.

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(b) The Life Choices Lifeline Program shall:

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(1) Encourage healthy childbirth;

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(2) Support childbirth as an alternative to abortion;

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(3) Promote family formation;

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(4) Aid successful parenting; and

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(5) Increase families' economic self-sufficiency.

(c) Funding provided for services of the Life Choices Lifeline Program



1 shall be used for nonsectarian purposes only.

2 (d) The Life Choices Lifeline Program shall consist of at least the
3 following components:

4 (1) Direct-to-participant marketing within the state;

5 (2) The use of licensed nurses to provide to participants in the
6 Life Choices Lifeline Program:

7 (A) An assessment and evaluation of needs related to
8 pregnancy or parenting; and

9 (B) Medically accurate pregnancy-related medical
10 information;

11 (3) The use of licensed social workers, nurses, or other
12 individuals of equivalent experience, to provide to participants in the Life
13 Choices Lifeline Program:

14 (A) Development of a care plan of resources and support to
15 address the needs identified;

16 (B) Referrals to appropriate local resources, including
17 state and federal benefits programs and local charitable organizations;

18 (C) Assistance in applying for state and federal benefits
19 programs; and

20 (D) Assistance in accomplishing elements of the care plan;
21 and

22 (4) Administrative support and expenses directly attributable to
23 the development of or ongoing support of services of the Life Choices
24 Lifeline Program.

25 (e)(1) The Life Choices Lifeline Program shall be available to
26 residents of all counties of the state, including residents in rural areas
27 that may currently lack access to services.

28 (2) Services of the Life Choices Lifeline Program may be
29 provided, as appropriate, in person through existing facilities or remotely
30 through a telephonic system or other comparable technological system.

31 (f) To be eligible to receive services under the Life Choices Lifeline
32 Program, an individual shall at the time of initial contact with the Life
33 Choices Lifeline Program be:

34 (1) A resident of the state; and

35 (2) A biological parent of an unborn child or a biological or
36 adoptive parent of a child under two (2) years of age.

1 (g) Existing participants of the Life Choices Lifeline Program whose
2 pregnancy is terminated before birth are eligible to continue to receive
3 services of the Life Choices Lifeline Program for six (6) months after the
4 date of termination.

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/s/Crawford