

ARKANSAS SENATE
94th General Assembly - Regular Session, 2023
Amendment Form

Subtitle of Senate Bill No. 426

TO EXTEND MATERNITY LEAVE FOR STATE EMPLOYEES; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING
THE CATASTROPHIC LEAVE PROGRAM.

Amendment No. 1 to Senate Bill 426

Amend Senate Bill No. 426 as originally introduced:

Add Representative Vaught as a cosponsor of the bill

AND

Page 1, delete line 11, and substitute the following:
"PROGRAM; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

AND

Delete the subtitle in its entirety and substitute:

"TO EXTEND MATERNITY LEAVE FOR STATE
EMPLOYEES; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING
THE CATASTROPHIC LEAVE PROGRAM; AND TO
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY."

AND

Page 2, delete line 6, and substitute the following:
"treated as any other leave for sickness or disability under § 21-4-209.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 21-4-214(e), concerning the catastrophic leave program and maternity leave, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(5) The employee shall not be eligible for an additional twelve (12) weeks of leave for the adoption of a child if the employee took twelve (12) weeks of leave after the initial foster placement of the same child into the employee's home.

SECTION 4. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that maternity leave improves



maternal and infant health, improves the mental and physical health of state employees after the birth of a child, and potentially reduces future use of sick leave; that maternity leave for adoptive children and foster children will encourage adoption and fostering by state employees; that paid maternity leave can increase employee retention and attract and retain new talent; and that this act is immediately necessary because state employees' maternal and infant needs are ongoing and of vital importance. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto."

The Amendment was read the first time, rules suspended and read the second time and _____

By: Senator Irvin

MLD/MLD - 03-29-2023 09:48:41

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Secretary