

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM STREAMLINE ITS PROCEDURE REGARDING IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ALCOHOL EDUCATION PROGRAM UNDER ACT 549 OF 1983.

WHEREAS, under Act 549 of 1983 any person who pleads guilty, nolo contendere, or is found guilty of violating the Arkansas DWI statutes must first complete an alcohol education program as approved by the Highway Safety Program, or an alcoholism treatment program as approved by the Arkansas Office on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention. Prior to reinstatement of a driver's license suspended or revoked, the driver shall furnish proof of attendance at and completion of such a program; and

WHEREAS, the Highway Safety Program contracts with some thirteen family service agencies to provide alcohol education to meet its responsibility under Act 549 of 1983; and

WHEREAS, employees at each of these family service agencies not only have the responsibility of working with other problems such as child abuse, domestic problems and other trying situations, it is an added burden to require them to provide alcohol education and it is unlikely that alcohol offenders receive the same education throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, because there presently is not a uniform state alcohol education program, individuals are receiving different treatment; and

WHEREAS, there should be an established state program to be run by one director with counselors hired to do exclusively DWI casework.

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE SEVENTY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS,

That the Highway Safety Program Director earnestly work toward establishing a State program with one director with counselors who do only DWI casework to properly perform alcohol education under Act 549 of 1983.