

1 State of Arkansas

2 82nd General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1999

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2282

4  
5 By: Representative Bond

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ' PARENT' S TWENTY-FOUR HOUR  
10 HOT LINE' ; TO PROVIDE A CENTRAL EMERGENCY  
11 COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK FOR INFORMATION TO ASSIST  
12 ARKANSAS PARENTS IN CRISIS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

## Subtitle

15 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE ' PARENT' S  
16 TWENTY-FOUR HOUR HOT LINE' . "

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

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21 SECTION 1. There is established the "Arkansas Parent's Twenty-Four Hour  
22 Hotline".

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24 SECTION 2. (a) The Department of Health shall be the administering  
25 agency for the Arkansas Parent's Twenty-Four Hour Hotline.

26 (b) The purpose of the hot line is to provide a single, central  
27 communications network to provide immediate access to agencies, organizations  
28 and individuals committed to offering emergency assistance to Arkansas'  
29 parents.

30 (c) The Department of Health is authorized to receive gifts, grants,  
31 and donations for the purposes of this act.

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33 SECTION 3. (a) The Department of Health shall have the following duties  
34 regarding the Arkansas Parent's Twenty-Four Hour Hotline:

35 (1) Establishment of a twenty-four (24) hour, seven (7) day per  
36 week telephone hot line to communicate information about agencies,

1 organizations and individuals committed to offering emergency assistance to  
2 Arkansas' parents;

3 (2) To coordinate with the Department of Information Systems in  
4 connecting the hot line with the dial-in gateway system to provide electronic  
5 access to members of the public to information regarding agencies,  
6 organizations and individuals working with the hot line;

7 (3) To provide appropriate oversight of any agencies,  
8 organizations and individuals working with the hot line;

9 (4) To explore ways of expanding the amount and kind of  
10 information provided, increasing the utility and form of the information  
11 provided, and, where appropriate, implementing those changes;

12 (5) To explore ways of improving parents' access to information,  
13 expanding the base of users who access the hot line, and, where appropriate,  
14 implementing those changes;

15 (6) To explore ways of expanding the hot line and its services to  
16 parents;

17 (7) To seek advice from the general public, professional  
18 associations, academic groups, and institutions and individuals with knowledge  
19 or interest in parenting and families' and children's needs;

20 (8) To actively solicit gifts, donations, and grants for the  
21 support of the hot line; and

22 (9) To actively assist those agencies, organizations and  
23 individuals working with the hot line in soliciting gifts, donations, and  
24 grants;

25 (10) In cooperation with the Director of the Department of  
26 Information Systems and the Director of the Department of Human Services, to  
27 develop a plan for encouraging the cooperation of state agencies, local  
28 agencies and private entities in the coordination and implementation of the  
29 hot line.

30 (b) All gifts, donations, and grants received by the hot line shall be  
31 accounted for by the Department of Health.

32 (c) The Department of Health shall:

33 (1) Before January 1, 2000, report to the Legislative Council on  
34 the establishment and development of the hot line; and

35 (2) Beginning January 1, 2001, report annually to the Legislative  
36 Council on the status of the hot line.

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2       SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
3 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
4 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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6       SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
7 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
8 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
9 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
10 act are declared to be severable.

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12       SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
13 hereby repealed.