

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 868

4  
5 By: Senator Steele

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE HUMAN SERVICES WORKERS IN  
10 THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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13 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE HUMAN SERVICES  
14 WORKERS IN THE SCHOOLS PROGRAM.

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

18  
19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-76-112 is amended to read as follows:  
20 20-76-112. Human Services Workers in Public Schools Program.

21 ~~The Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Health and~~  
22 ~~Human Services shall encourage the Transitional Employment Assistance Program~~  
23 ~~and the Transitional Employment Assistance Board to work in coordination with~~  
24 ~~the division to increase the number of human service workers in public~~  
25 ~~schools.~~

26 (a) The Human Services Worker in the school program is established as  
27 a collaborative effort between the Division of Children and Family Services  
28 of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Transitional Employment  
29 Assistance Board, the Department of Education and local school districts.  
30 The Human Services Worker in Schools Program is designed to help children and  
31 families by:

- 32 (1) Promoting safety of children and strengthening of families;  
33 (2) Supporting the community's capacity to produce children who  
34 are healthy, children who are in supportive, nurturing, and healthy  
35 families, and children who succeed in school; and  
36 (3) Promoting the division's family preservation philosophy and



1 family-centered practice.

2 (b) Upon approval of the Arkansas Transitional Employment Board, the  
3 division shall enter into contracts with local school districts to provide  
4 funding for the maximum number of human service workers.

5 (c) Human service workers shall have a bachelors degree or master  
6 degree in social work or related field and shall provide the following  
7 services, including without limitation:

8 (1) Crisis intervention;

9 (2) Family/student counseling;

10 (3) Home visits;

11 (4) Transportation for family and student group counseling;

12 (5) Parent training and activities;

13 (6) Supportive service referrals;

14 (7) Individualized coping and conflict management skills; and

15 (8) School conferences and in-service training.

16 (d) Funding for human services workers shall be targeted to schools  
17 with ninety percent 90% or more children eligible for the Free and Reduced  
18 Lunch program under the National School Lunch Act. The Department of  
19 Education and the division shall develop a criteria to prioritize eligibility  
20 for the Human Services Worker Program.

21 (e) The human services workers in the School Program shall be  
22 evaluated annually by the coordinated Health Services Section of the  
23 Department of Education in coordination with the division, the Transitional  
24 Employment Assistance Board, and the local school districts that hold  
25 contracts.

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27 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
28 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that there is a need for a human  
29 services workers program in schools and that this act is immediately  
30 necessary because most schools lack the expertise to provide appropriate  
31 services to students and because there is a need to inform schools about the  
32 availability of the program prior to the end of the current school year to  
33 have the opportunity to recruit a sufficient number of human services  
34 workers for the next school year. Therefore, an emergency is declared to  
35 exist and this act being necessary for the preservation of the public peace,  
36 health, and safety shall become effective on April 15, 2007.