

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1664

5 By: Representatives Crawford, Dotson  
6 By: Senator B. Ballinger  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8  
9 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LIFE CHOICES LIFELINE  
10 PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

## Subtitle

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14 TO ESTABLISH THE LIFE CHOICES LIFELINE  
15 PROGRAM.  
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17

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:

22 Subchapter 9 – The Life Choices Lifeline Program  
23

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

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

30 (b) The Life Choices Lifeline Program shall:

- 31 (1) Encourage healthy childbirth;  
32 (2) Support childbirth as an alternative to abortion;  
33 (3) Promote family formation;  
34 (4) Aid successful parenting; and  
35 (5) Increase families' economic self-sufficiency.

36 (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, or other individuals of  
12 equivalent experience, to provide to participants in the Life Choices  
13 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.

5       (h)(1) From time to time, the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State may  
6 transfer on his or her books and those of the State Treasurer and the Auditor  
7 of the State funds from the state's federal Temporary Assistance for Needy  
8 Families block grant as determined available by the Department of Workforce  
9 Services and at the direction of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State to the  
10 Department of Health to be used solely for the Life Choices Lifeline Program.

11       (2)(A) The Department of Workforce Services shall provide a  
12 report of all transfers made under the provisions of this section.

13       (B) If the Department of Workforce Services determines  
14 that funding for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program is not  
15 available for a transfer as authorized in this section, the Department of  
16 Workforce Services shall submit a report a month before the regular or fiscal  
17 session that lists:

18               (i) The funds of the Temporary Assistance for Needy  
19 Families Program that were available;

20               (ii) How the funds of the Temporary Assistance for  
21 Needy Families Program are distributed; and

22               (iii) An explanation of why funds were not  
23 distributed for the Life Choices Lifeline Program to the Legislative Council  
24 or the Joint Budget Committee, if during a regular or fiscal session.

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