

State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1856

By: Representative Dotson
By: Senator B. Ballinger

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT STATE AGENCIES FROM ENGAGING IN
THE DECISION-MAKING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL IN THE CUSTODY
OF THE STATE REGARDING THE TERMINATION OF A PREGNANCY
AND FROM EXPENDING STATE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF
TERMINATING A PREGNANCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO PROHIBIT STATE AGENCIES FROM ENGAGING
IN THE DECISION-MAKING FOR AN INDIVIDUAL
IN THE CUSTODY OF THE STATE REGARDING THE
TERMINATION OF A PREGNANCY AND FROM
EXPENDING STATE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF
TERMINATING A PREGNANCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 16, Subchapter 6, is
amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-16-605. In custody of state.

(a) A state agency shall not:

(1) Intentionally engage in the decision-making process for a
pregnant woman in the custody of the state who is seeking termination of her
pregnancy; or

(2) Authorize the expenditure of state funds for the purpose of
paying for the termination of a pregnancy for a pregnant woman in the custody
of the state except to save the life of the pregnant woman.



1 (b) A pregnant woman in the custody of the state, her family, or a
2 third-party payer is responsible for all costs, including transportation
3 costs, associated with a medical appointment, or any subsequent healthcare
4 service determined necessary, related to the termination of her pregnancy.
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