

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

SENATE BILL 623

By: Senator J. Scott

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF FEMALE INMATES AND
DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL OR DETENTION FACILITIES; TO
AMEND THE LAW REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF AN INMATE OR
DETAINEE WHO IS PREGNANT OR HAS RECENTLY DELIVERED A
CHILD; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF FEMALE
INMATES AND DETAINEES IN CORRECTIONAL OR
DETENTION FACILITIES; AND TO AMEND THE
LAW REGARDING THE TREATMENT OF AN INMATE
OR DETAINEE WHO IS PREGNANT OR HAS
RECENTLY DELIVERED A CHILD.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-32-103(a) concerning the provision of
prenatal nutrition and hygiene products to a pregnant inmate, is amended to
read as follows:

(a) A correctional or detention facility shall establish a policy for
providing:

(1) Necessary prenatal vitamins and nutrition for pregnant
inmates and detainees, including without limitation timely and regular
nutritious meals that provide, at minimum, two thousand five hundred (2,500)
calories in total per day;

(2) A necessary number of hygiene products for female inmates
and detainees;



(3) A necessary number of undergarments for female inmates and detainees;

(4) A lower bunk for a pregnant inmate or detainee; ~~and~~

(5) Unless otherwise provided for by the correctional or detention facility, access for a pregnant inmate or detainee to:

(A) ~~nonprofit~~ Nonprofit educational programming, such as prenatal care, pregnancy-specific hygiene, and parenting classes; and

(B) Substance abuse treatment; and

(6) Unless otherwise provided for by the correctional or detention facility, a female medical provider to be present during a medical examination of a pregnant inmate or detainee.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-32-104(c), concerning the placement of a pregnant inmate in restrictive housing, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A pregnant inmate or detainee or an inmate or detainee who has delivered a child within the previous thirty (30) days may not be placed in restrictive housing for any length of time unless the correctional or detention facility determines that the ~~pregnant~~ inmate's or detainee's continued presence in the general population of the correctional or detention facility poses:

(1) A direct threat to:

(A) The safety of a person; or

(B) An unborn child or children; or

(2) A clear threat to the safe and secure operations of the correctional or detention facility.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 32, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

12-32-106. Safety of pregnant inmate or detainee during transport.

A pregnant inmate or detainee shall be transported in a vehicle equipped with seatbelts.