

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.
Act 811 of the Regular Session

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: H3/9/17
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1775

By: Representatives Johnson, Lemons, Drown, Lundstrum

By: Senators J. English, D. Wallace

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO MANDATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUICIDE PREVENTION HOTLINE;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO MANDATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A SUICIDE
PREVENTION HOTLINE.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 45, Subchapter 3, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-45-303. Suicide Prevention Hotline.

(a)(1) The Department of Health shall establish and maintain to the extent that funding is available the Suicide Prevention Hotline for the purpose of helping to prevent suicide in the state.

(2) The department may contract with vendors to maintain the Suicide Prevention Hotline.

(b)(1) The Suicide Prevention Hotline shall be staffed twenty-four (24) hours per day and shall have statewide accessibility through a toll-free telephone number.

(2) The toll-free telephone number under this section shall be known as the "Suicide Prevention Hotline".

(3)(A) The Suicide Prevention Hotline shall be part of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline network by utilizing existing telephone,



text, and online chat communications.

(B) The Suicide Prevention Hotline shall meet all accreditation requirements set forth by the United States Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

(c) All persons may use the Suicide Prevention Hotline to assist in preventing suicide throughout the state.

/s/Johnson

APPROVED: 04/01/2017