

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019

As Engrossed: S2/19/19  
**A Bill**

SENATE BILL 314

By: Senator B. Sample

### For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS MADE TO A  
CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT MEMBER BY AN EMERGENCY  
RESPONDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

CONCERNING PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS MADE  
TO A CERTIFIED PEER SUPPORT MEMBER BY AN  
EMERGENCY RESPONDER.

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

*SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 16-40-106(a), concerning the definitions of "certified peer support member" and "peer support event", is amended to read as follows:*

*(a) As used in this section:*

*(1) "Approved training" means training including, at a minimum, the following subjects:*

*(A) The core elements of critical incident stress management, including how to help a person understand the need for further assistance;*

*(B) Psychological crisis and psychological crisis intervention;*

*(C) The individual aspects of a peer support event and how to work with the aspects of a peer support event through resistance, resiliency, and recovery;*

*(D) Situational crisis intervention with individual persons and groups;*



(E) Practical communication skills and techniques to assist a person in a crisis situation;

(F) How a person reacts in a crisis and how to understand and work with the person in an intervention mode;

(G) Mechanisms to assist in dealing with a person in a crisis situation;

(H) Practical tools to use to work with individual persons and groups in a crisis situation; and

(I) Recognizing issues that may lead a person to have suicidal thoughts;

(2) “Certified peer support member” means a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical technician of an emergency service agency or entity who has received approved training certified by the Arkansas Crisis Response Team, the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training, or the Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board in critical incident stress management and who is ~~certified as a peer support member by the Arkansas Crisis Response Team~~ qualified to provide emotional or moral support to an emergency responder who needs emotional or moral support as a result of job-related stress or an incident in which the emergency responder was involved while acting in his or her official capacity; and

~~(2)~~(3) “Peer support event” means any debriefing, defusing, or counseling session conducted by a certified peer support member that involves the emotional or moral support of an emergency responder who needs emotional or moral support as a result of job-related stress or an incident in which the emergency responder was involved while acting in his or her official capacity.

/s/B. Sample

**APPROVED: 3/26/19**