

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H3/1/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1373

By: Representatives A. Collins, Cozart, L. Fite

By: Senators Bledsoe, Rapert

For An Act To Be Entitled

*AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW TO REQUIRE THAT PERSONNEL OF
PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING POINTS OR DISPATCH CENTERS
THAT OFFER PRE-ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMERGENCY
MEDICAL CONDITIONS BE TRAINED IN TELEPHONE CPR; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.*

Subtitle

*TO AMEND THE LAW TO REQUIRE THAT
PERSONNEL OF PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING
POINTS OR DISPATCH CENTERS THAT OFFER
PRE-ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMERGENCY
MEDICAL CONDITIONS BE TRAINED IN
TELEPHONE CPR.*

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Over three hundred sixty-six thousand (366,000) people
annually experience an out-of-hospital cardiac arrest across the nation;

(2) If cardiopulmonary resuscitation begins before the arrival
of emergency medical service personnel, a person in cardiac arrest has a two
(2) to three (3) times higher likelihood of survival; and

(3) Initial information suggests an increased number of out-of-
hospital cardiac arrest instances associated with coronavirus 2019 (COVID-
19).



SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 10, Subchapter 3, is amended to add a new section to read as follows:

12-10-329. Telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation – Definition – Rules.

(a) As used in this section, "telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation" means the delivery of compression or ventilation instructions to callers who are reporting suspected cases of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest.

(b) The staff and supervisors of a public safety answering point or dispatch center shall be trained in telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation if the public safety answering point or dispatch center offers pre-arrival instructions for emergency medical conditions.

(c) The training required in subsection (b) of this section shall:

(1) Use protocols and scripts based on evidence-based and nationally recognized guidelines for telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and

(2) Include without limitation:

(A) Recognition protocols for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest;

(B) Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation instructions; and

(C) Continuing education.

(d)(1) A caller may decline to receive instruction on telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

(2) If a caller declines instruction under subdivision (d)(1) of this section, the staff and supervisors of a public safety answering point or dispatch center are not required to provide the instruction.

(e) The Division of Law Enforcement Standards and Training may assess a fee on a private safety agency invited to attend training or receive instruction under this section to reimburse the division for costs associated with the training or instruction.

/s/A. Collins

APPROVED: 04/01/21