

By: Senator Irvin

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF PREGNANCY RESOURCE
CENTERS IN ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF PREGNANCY
RESOURCE CENTERS IN ARKANSAS.

WHEREAS, the life-affirming impact of pregnancy resource centers on the women, men, children, and communities they serve is considerable and growing; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers serve women in Arkansas and across the United States with integrity and compassion; and

WHEREAS, more than 2,500 pregnancy resource centers across the United States provide comprehensive care to women and men facing unplanned pregnancies, including resources to meet their physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers offer women free, confidential, and compassionate services, including pregnancy tests, peer counseling, 24-hour telephone hotlines, childbirth and parenting classes, and referrals to community health care, and other support services; and

WHEREAS, many medical pregnancy resource centers offer ultrasounds and other medical services; and



WHEREAS, many pregnancy resource centers provide information on adoption and adoption referrals to pregnant women; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers encourage women to make positive life choices by equipping them with complete and accurate information regarding their pregnancy options and the development of their unborn children; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers provide women with compassionate and confidential peer counseling in a nonjudgmental manner regardless of their pregnancy outcomes; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers provide important support and resources for women who choose childbirth over abortion; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers ensure that women are receiving prenatal information and services that lead to the birth of healthy infants; and

WHEREAS, many pregnancy resource centers provide grief assistance for women and men who regret the loss of their children from past choices they have made; and

WHEREAS, many pregnancy resource centers work to prevent unplanned pregnancies by teaching effective abstinence education in public schools; and

WHEREAS, both federal and state governments are increasingly recognizing the valuable services of pregnancy resource centers through the designation of public funds for such organizations; and

WHEREAS, pregnancy resource centers operate primarily through reliance on the voluntary donations and time of individuals who are committed to caring for the needs of women and promoting and protecting life,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE

OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate:

(1) Strongly supports pregnancy resource centers in their unique, positive contributions to the individual lives of women, men, and babies – both born and unborn;

(2) Commends the compassionate work of tens of thousands of volunteers and paid staff at pregnancy resource centers in Arkansas and across the United States;

(3) Strongly encourages the United States Congress and other federal and state government agencies to grant pregnancy resource centers assistance for medical equipment and abstinence education in a manner that does not compromise the mission or religious integrity of these organizations; and

(4) Disapproves of the actions of any national, state, or local groups attempting to prevent pregnancy resource centers from effectively serving women and men facing unplanned pregnancies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon its adoption a copy of this resolution be presented by the Secretary of the Senate to each pregnancy resource center in Arkansas, to the Governor, to the President of the United States, and to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress.