

State of Arkansas
91st General Assembly
Regular Session, 2017

A Bill

SENATE BILL 439

By: Senator Teague
By: Representatives Vaught, M. Gray

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES UNDER THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING FUNDS RECEIVED BY THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES UNDER THE
OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965.

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

SECTION 1. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that this act:

(1) Create oversight and fairness in the administration, accountability, and distribution of funds received under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq., and from the state for programs administered under the act;

(2) Provide for the fair and equitable distribution of funds received under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq., in order to maximize the benefits received by elderly Arkansans;

(3) Create a program with oversight and monitoring functions that will address and prevent the abuse of funds received under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.;

(4) Recognize and address the increasing problem of elderly citizens of Arkansas suffering from hunger;

(5) Facilitate the implementation of improved programs that



benefit elderly citizens of Arkansas; and

(6) Improve this state's ranking with regard to the quality of programs and care afforded to the elderly citizens of Arkansas.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 10, Subchapter 6, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-10-604. Award and distribution of funds - Reports.

(a) The Department of Human Services shall:

(1)(A) Establish rules for the oversight, accountability, administration, award, and distribution of funds received by the department under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq., and from the state for programs administered under the act.

(B) The rules established by the department shall include requirements that an entity must meet in order to receive and continue receiving funds under this section; and

(2) Provide the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs with an annual report accounting for funds received by the department under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq., and from the state for programs administered under the act and disbursed by the department.

(b)(1)(A) The department shall annually award funds under this section to one (1) or more entities that the department determines are eligible to receive funds under the Older Americans Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. § 3001 et seq.

(B) The department may set the:

(i) Funding allocated to each region of the state based on statistical need;

(ii) Method by which each region of the state shall receive funds under this section; and

(iii) Method by which an entity shall receive funds awarded under this section.

(2) An allocation, award, or distribution of funds made by the department under this section may be reviewed by the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs or another appropriate legislative committee prior to the allocation, award, or distribution.

(c)(1)(A) An entity that receives funds under this section from the

department shall submit quarterly reports to the Director of the Department of Human Services or his or her designee.

(B) The report required under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section shall include without limitation an accounting for services rendered, the number of individuals served, and the moneys expended.

(2) An entity that receives funds under this section shall be bonded and is liable to the state for any misuse of funds received by the entity.