

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/29/17 S3/29/17

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 488

By: Senator A. Clark

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON PREVENTION, TREATMENT,  
COUNSELING, AND EDUCATION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY;  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON GAMBLING DISORDER  
PREVENTION, TREATMENT, COUNSELING, AND  
EDUCATION; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

*SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. (a) If funds are available, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff shall partner to conduct a study of the existing occurrence of gambling disorders in the state and methods to prevent and treat gambling disorders.*

*(b) In conducting the study, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff shall:*

*(1) Examine and describe the existing:*

*(A) Prevalence of gambling disorders in the state; and*

*(B) Programs available that prevent and address the harmful consequences of gambling disorders; and*

*(2) Collaborate with scientists and physicians to examine the:*

*(A) Current research as to the:*

*(i) Causes of gambling disorders; and*

*(ii) Effects of gambling disorders on mental and physical health; and*



(B) Treatment methods for gambling disorders currently available in the state.

(c) By December 1, 2018, the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff shall report the findings of the study and provide recommendations on methods to supplement or improve gambling disorder prevention, treatment, counseling, and education services in this state to the:

- (1) Lottery Oversight Subcommittee;
- (2) Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor; and
- (3) House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that many residents of this state suffer from issues related to gambling disorders; that conducting a study on the prevalence of gambling disorders and treatment options would provide guidance on methods to address these issues; and that this act is immediately necessary to protect the health and well-being of these residents. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

- (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;
- (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or
- (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

/s/A. Clark