

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1403

5 By: Representative Pilkington  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS HEALTH AND OPPORTUNITY  
10 FOR ME ACT OF 2021 TO ALLOW NONHOSPITAL ENTITIES TO  
11 BE COMMUNITY BRIDGE ORGANIZATIONS; AND FOR OTHER  
12 PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE ARKANSAS HEALTH AND  
17 OPPORTUNITY FOR ME ACT OF 2021 TO ALLOW  
18 NONHOSPITAL ENTITIES TO BE COMMUNITY  
19 BRIDGE ORGANIZATIONS.  
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1002(3), concerning the legislative  
24 intent for the Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me Act of 2021, is amended  
25 to read as follows:

26 (3) Promotes the health, welfare, and stability of mothers and  
27 their infants after birth through ~~hospital-based~~ community bridge  
28 organizations;  
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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1002(6), concerning the legislative  
31 intent for the Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me Act of 2021, is amended  
32 to read as follows:

33 (6) Addresses health-related social needs of Arkansans in rural  
34 counties through ~~hospital-based~~ community bridge organizations and reduces  
35 the additional risk for disease and premature death associated with living in  
36 a rural county;



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SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1010(b)(1), concerning the community bridge organizations under the Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me Act of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1) Each community bridge organization shall be administered by a hospital or a nonhospital entity under conditions established by the Department of Human Services.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 23-61-1010(b), concerning the community bridge organizations under the Arkansas Health and Opportunity for Me Act of 2021, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(5) A nonhospital entity may serve eligible individuals under subsection (a) of this section if the nonhospital entity meets any additional criteria established by the Department of Human Services.