

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H3/1/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1373

5 By: Representatives A. Collins, Cozart, L. Fite
6 By: Senators Bledsoe, Rapert
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

16 TO AMEND THE LAW TO REQUIRE THAT
17 PERSONNEL OF PUBLIC SAFETY ANSWERING
18 POINTS OR DISPATCH CENTERS THAT OFFER
19 PRE-ARRIVAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMERGENCY
20 MEDICAL CONDITIONS BE TRAINED IN
21 TELEPHONE CPR.
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25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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27 SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. LEGISLATIVE INTENT.

28 The General Assembly finds that:

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

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

34 (3) Initial information suggests an increased number of out-of-
35 hospital cardiac arrest instances associated with coronavirus 2019 (COVID-
36 19).



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

4 12-10-329. Telephone cardiopulmonary resuscitation – Definition –
5 Rules.

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

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

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

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

17 (2) Include without limitation:

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

20 (B) Compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation
21 instructions; and

22 (C) Continuing education.

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

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

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

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35 /s/A. Collins

36 APPROVED: 04/01/21