

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 50th Legislature (2006)

SENATE BILL 1781

By: Aldridge

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public health and safety; directing the Oklahoma Department of Human Services to establish the Alternatives-to-Abortion Program; stating purpose of program; stating services, counseling and information to be provided; allowing for contracting with certain providers; stating exception; providing funding; providing for codification; providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-741.1 of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services is directed to establish and implement the Alternatives-to-Abortion Program. It shall be the purpose of this program to assist women in carrying their pregnancies to term by providing information, counseling, and support services that help pregnant women make informed decisions regarding the choices of adoption or parenting over that of abortion.

B. The information, counseling and services provided under this program may include, but are not limited to:

1. Medical care;
2. Nutritional services;
3. Housing assistance;
4. Adoption services;
5. Education and employment assistance, including services that support the continuation and completion of high school;
6. Child care assistance; and

7. Parenting education and support services.

C. The Department may contract with nongovernmental health care and social service organizations to provide services offered under the program. The services must be outcome-based with positive outcome-based results. However, the Department may not contract with a provider of adoption services not licensed by the state.

D. The Department may use discretionary funds available from the temporary assistance for needy families program (TANF) and any other funds available to the Department which may lawfully be expended for such purpose to pay for the cost of the Alternatives-to-Abortion program. The Department may also seek sources of funding through the federal office of faith-based and community initiatives.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2006.

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