

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

3 SENATE BILL 1625

By: Jett

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health; amending 63 O.S.
8 2021, Sections 1-740.17 and 1-740.18, which relate to
9 grants to private organizations for services;
10 transferring duties under the Choosing Childbirth Act
11 to Oklahoma Department of Commerce; updating
12 statutory reference; providing an effective date; and
13 declaring an emergency.

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

13 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-740.17, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1-740.17. A. ~~The State Department of Health~~ Oklahoma
16 Department of Commerce shall make grants, from funds appropriated by
17 the Legislature specifically for this purpose, to a grant-
18 supervising entity for the purpose of reimbursing private
19 organizations in Oklahoma for the reasonable expenses of programs
20 providing the following services:

21 1. Providing information on, referral to and assistance in
22 securing the services of relevant existing programs or agencies that
23 assist women in Oklahoma to carry their children to term, and/or
24 providing services that assist women to carry their children to term

1 including, but not limited to, agencies and programs that will
2 provide medical attention for the pregnant woman for the duration of
3 her pregnancy, nutritional support services, housing assistance,
4 adoption services, education and employment assistance and parenting
5 education and support services;

6 2. Providing women in Oklahoma, in person and through community
7 outreach, information and/or services that encourage and assist them
8 to carry their children to term; and

9 3. Providing services including, but not limited to, healthcare
10 services to mothers and infants for the purpose of reducing the
11 rates of maternal mortality and infant mortality in this state by
12 three percent (3%) within five (5) years of ~~the effective date of~~
13 ~~this act~~ July 1, 2021; provided, however, no funds shall be provided
14 to an organization that provides, or whose affiliates provide,
15 abortion services.

16 B. To be eligible for a service grant, an organization shall:

17 1. Be registered with the ~~Oklahoma~~ Secretary of State as a not-
18 for-profit corporation located in Oklahoma;

19 2. Have the grant amount approved by a grant-supervising
20 entity;

21 3. For services described in paragraphs 1 and 2 of subsection A
22 of this section, provide each pregnant woman counseled with accurate
23 information on the developmental characteristics of unborn children
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1 including offering the printed information described in Section 1-
2 738.3 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

3 4. Assure that the grant's sole purposes are to assist and
4 encourage women to carry their children to term and to maximize
5 their potentials thereafter or to reduce the rates of maternal
6 mortality and infant mortality in this state as provided in
7 paragraph 3 of subsection A of this section; and

8 5. Assure that none of the funds provided pursuant to the
9 Choosing Childbirth Act, nor any other funds or services provided by
10 the organization, are used to encourage or counsel a woman to have
11 an abortion not necessary to prevent her death, to provide her such
12 an abortion or to refer her for such an abortion.

13 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2021, Section 1-740.18, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 Section 1-740.18. The ~~State Department of Health~~ Oklahoma
16 Department of Commerce shall make grants to a grant-supervising
17 entity under the Choosing Childbirth Act from funds appropriated by
18 the Legislature specifically for this purpose. The ~~State Department~~
19 ~~of Health~~ Department shall annually monitor and review the grant-
20 supervising entity to assure that the grant-supervising entity
21 carefully adheres to the purposes and requirements of the Choosing
22 Childbirth Act, and it shall cease funding a grant-supervising
23 entity that fails to do so if the Department proves specific
24 findings of noncompliance, subject to judicial review.

1 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective July 1, 2022.

2 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
3 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
4 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
5 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
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