

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE BILL 960

By: Treat

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to maternal and infant mortality;
amending Section 3, Chapter 308, O.S.L. 2017 (63 O.S.
Supp. 2020, Section 1-740.17), which relates to
grants to private organizations for services;
broadening allowed purposes of grants; providing an
effective date; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY Section 3, Chapter 308, O.S.L.
2017 (63 O.S. Supp. 2020, Section 1-740.17), is amended to read as
follows:

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

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

1 term, 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; ~~and~~

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.

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

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

17 2. Have the grant amount approved by a grant-supervising
18 entity;

19 3. ~~Provide~~ For services described in paragraphs 1 and 2 of
20 subsection A of this section, provide each pregnant woman counseled
21 with accurate information on the developmental characteristics of
22 unborn children, including offering the printed information
23 described in Section 1-738.3 of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
24

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

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

11 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective July 1, 2021.

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

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