

NOTICE of PUBLIC HEARING and NOTICE to INTERESTED PARTIES

The Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), Section of Health Facility Services (HFS) will hold a public hearing on March 17, 2022; 11:00 a.m. in the Freeway Medical Tower, Suite 906, 5800 W. 10th St., Little Rock, AR, 72204 to allow interested persons an opportunity to comment on proposed revisions to the Rules for Abortion Facilities in Arkansas promulgated pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. §§20-9-302 et seq. Proposed revisions are available on the ADH website: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/proposed-amendment-to-existing-rules>

The public is strongly encouraged to provide comments by e-mail to minimize the risk of Covid-19. E-mail comments to: paula.day@arkansas.gov or by regular mail to: HFS Rules Comments, 5800 W. 10th St., Ste. 400, Little Rock, AR 72204. All comments must be received by 4:00 p.m.; March 16, 2022.

Proposed revisions will include:

- revisions to definitions
- added a requirement for written agreements with hospitals and ambulance services
- additional consent requirements
- added provision regarding pelvic exams on unconscious or anesthetized woman
- additional reporting requirements to ADH
- provision to make it a felony to conceal or remove information during an inspection
- changed the timeframe for follow-up appointment following a medical abortion
- added a requirement for reporting abortion due to criminal act to ADH
- added staffing requirement of a qualified ultrasound staff member
- added additional elements for the pregnant women viewing the ultrasound
- added human trafficking posting and Laura's card requirements
- added documentation requirements
- added a Section for Appendices

If ill, you may not enter the building or the meeting room. Temperature check, completion of screening questionnaire, facial covering, and physical distancing will be required of all attendees. In addition, group size will be limited.