

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 82nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 1999  
4

# A Bill

Act 626 of 1999  
HOUSE BILL 1257

5 By: Representative Madison  
6 By: Senator Ross  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

10 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-12-509 TO CLARIFY  
11 THAT NOTIFICATION OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE  
12 CONCERNING INITIAL CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS IS AT  
13 THE DISCRETION OF THE INDIVIDUAL PROSECUTOR; AND FOR  
14 OTHER PURPOSES. "

## Subtitle

16 "TO CLARIFY THAT NOTIFICATION OF THE  
17 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE CONCERNING  
18 INITIAL CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS IS AT  
19 THE DISCRETION OF THE INDIVIDUAL  
20 PROSECUTOR. "

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24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-12-509(a) is amended to read as follows:

27 "(a)(1) The department shall cause an investigation to be made upon  
28 receiving initial notification of suspected child maltreatment.

29 (2)(A) All investigations shall begin within seventy-two (72)  
30 hours.

31 (B) However, if the notice contains an allegation of severe  
32 maltreatment then the department shall immediately notify law enforcement, and  
33 the department shall initiate an investigation in cooperation with law  
34 enforcement agencies and the prosecuting attorney within twenty-four (24)  
35 hours. The prosecuting attorney may provide written notice to the department,  
36 that the department does not need to provide notification of the initial

1 mal treatment report to the prosecuting attorney's office. Upon receiving the  
2 notification, the department shall not be required to provide notification of  
3 the initial mal treatment report to the prosecuting attorney's office."  
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5 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
6 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
7 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.  
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9 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
10 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
11 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
12 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
13 act are declared to be severable.  
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15 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
16 hereby repealed.  
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19 APPROVED: 3/16/1999  
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