

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

A Bill

SENATE BILL 247

4
5 By: Senators Ross, Scott, Gwatney, Everett, Roebuck, K. Smith
6 By: Representatives Madison, Cook, Broadway, Judy, Hale, Luker, Napper, Wilkins, J. Lewellen

For An Act To Be Entitled

7
8
9
10 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE A CHILD ADVOCATE TO BE LOCATED IN
11 FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES;
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

13
14
15 "TO REQUIRE A CHILD ADVOCATE TO BE
16 LOCATED IN FACILITIES OPERATED BY THE
17 DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES. "

18
19
20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

21
22 SECTION 1. For purposes of this Act, "child advocate" means any person
23 having professional training in youth counseling, employed by the Division of
24 Youth Services of the Department of Human Services to protect the interests of
25 juveniles committed to the Division of Youth Services.

26
27 SECTION 2. (a) The Division of Youth Services shall ensure that a
28 child advocate is present twenty-four (24) hours a day at each facility to
29 which juveniles have been committed and which are operated by the Division of
30 Youth Services.

31 (b) The child advocate shall report all instances of abuse to the
32 Director of the Department of Human Services and to the Director of the
33 Division of Youth Services.

34 (c) The Director of the Division of Youth Services shall provide the
35 House Interim Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military
36 Affairs and the Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth a one (1) page

1 quarterly report outlining the reported incidents and the outcome of the
2 incident. In the event the General Assembly is in session, the Director shall
3 provide the report to the House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth,
4 Legislative and Military Affairs and the chairman of the Senate Interim
5 Committee on Children and Youth.

6
7 SECTION 3. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
8 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
9 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

10
11 SECTION 4. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
12 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
13 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
14 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
15 Act are declared to be severable.

16
17 SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
18 hereby repealed.