

State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: S3/9/11 S3/24/11 S3/28/11

88th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2011

SENATE BILL 527

By: Senator J. Dismang

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO LICENSED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ON THE SIGNS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND OTHER FORMS OF CHILD MALTREATMENT AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO VICTIMS OF CHILD MALTREATMENT; TO REQUIRE THE ARKANSAS CHILD ABUSE/RAPE/DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE TRAINING CURRICULUM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO LICENSED SCHOOL PERSONNEL CONCERNING CHILD MALTREATMENT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 6-61-133 is amended to read as follows:

6-61-133. Training for mandatory reporters and licensed elementary and secondary public school personnel.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Child maltreatment" means the abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, sexual exploitation, or abandonment of a child under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq.; and

(2) "Licensed school personnel" means a person who works with students in an elementary or secondary public school, a public charter school, a school district, or an education service cooperative for whom a license issued by the State Board of Education is a condition of employment, including without limitation a:



1 (A) School or school district administrator;

2 (B) Teacher;

3 (C) Coach for a school athletics program;

4 (D) School counselor;

5 (E) School social worker;

6 (F) School psychologist; and

7 (G) School nurse.

8 (b) For each degree program at an institution of higher learning
9 education in this state that is a prerequisite for licensure or certification
10 in a profession in which the professional is a child maltreatment mandated
11 reporter under the Child Maltreatment Act, § 12-18-101 et seq., the
12 Department of Higher Education shall coordinate with all the institutions of
13 higher education institutions to ensure that before receiving a degree, each
14 graduate receives, including without limitation, the training identified in
15 subdivision (d)(1) of this section in.

16 (c) Licensed school personnel shall obtain the training identified in
17 subsection (d) of this section within twelve (12) months of:

18 (1) The individual's initial licensure; and

19 (2) All subsequent renewals of the individual's license.

20 (d)(1) The training required under this section shall include without
21 limitation:

22 ~~(1)(A)~~ (A) Recognizing the signs and symptoms of child abuse and
23 neglect maltreatment;

24 ~~(2)(B)~~ (B) The legal requirements of the Child Maltreatment Act, §
25 12-18-101 et seq., and the duties of mandated reporters under the act; and

26 ~~(3)(C)~~ (C) Methods for managing disclosures regarding child victims.

27 (2) In addition to the training required under subdivision
28 (d)(1) of this section, licensed school personnel shall obtain training in
29 connecting a victim of child maltreatment to appropriate in-school services
30 and other agencies, programs, and services needed to provide the child with
31 the emotional and educational support the child needs to continue to be
32 successful in school.

33 (e)(1) The training obtained by licensed school personnel may be
34 obtained as in-person or online training.

35 (2) The Arkansas Child Abuse/Rape/Domestic Violence Commission
36 shall approve the curriculum for the training.

1 (3) Licensed school personnel shall document completed training
2 according to the rules of the State Board of Education.

3 (f) Licensed school personnel may substitute for the required number
4 of hours of staff development on parental involvement plans under § 6-15-1703
5 an equal number of hours of training obtained under this section.

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7 /s/J. Dismang
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