

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 12

4  
5 By: Senator Irvin

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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7  
8 AN ACT TO PROHIBIT LEVEL 3 OR LEVEL 4 SEX OFFENDERS  
9 FROM BEING AT A SWIMMING AREA OR CHILDREN'S  
10 PLAYGROUND CONTAINED WITHIN AN ARKANSAS STATE PARK;  
11 TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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15 TO PROHIBIT LEVEL 3 OR LEVEL 4 SEX  
16 OFFENDERS FROM BEING AT A SWIMMING AREA  
17 OR CHILDREN'S PLAYGROUND CONTAINED WITHIN  
18 AN ARKANSAS STATE PARK; AND TO DECLARE AN  
19 EMERGENCY.  
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 5, Chapter 14, Subchapter 1, is amended  
25 to add a new section to read as follows:

26 5-14-134. Registered offender prohibited from entering a swimming area  
27 or children's playground contained within an Arkansas State Park.

28 (a) As used in this section:

29 (1) "Arkansas State Park" means a state park classified or  
30 reclassified as an official state park under § 22-4-201(1) or § 22-4-202;

31 (2) "Children's playground" means a place with a specific design  
32 for children to be able to play there, whether indoor or outdoor; and

33 (3) "Swimming area" means a place with a specific design for  
34 people to swim, including without limitation a beach, a swimming pool, and a  
35 water park.

36 (b) It is unlawful for a person who is required to register under the



1 Sex Offender Registration Act of 1997, § 12-12-901 et seq., and who has been  
2 assessed as a Level 3 or Level 4 offender to knowingly enter a swimming area  
3 or children’s playground contained within an Arkansas State Park.

4 (c) A violation of this section is a Class D felony.

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6 SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the  
7 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that high-level sex offenders often  
8 target young children as victims; that during the summer months, state parks  
9 are popular destinations for families with young children, especially those  
10 with a swimming area or a playground; and that this act is immediately  
11 necessary in order for it to be effective before the late spring and summer  
12 of this year when children will begin to go to state parks. Therefore, an  
13 emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for  
14 the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become  
15 effective on:

16 (1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

17 (2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor,  
18 the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the  
19 bill; or

20 (3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is  
21 overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.