

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

4  
5 By: Senator A. Clark

## For An Act To Be Entitled

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8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE CHILD MALTREATMENT INVESTIGATION  
9 BODY CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

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12 TO CREATE THE CHILD MALTREATMENT  
13 INVESTIGATION BODY CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM.

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

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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 18, is amended to add an  
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 Subchapter 13 – Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program

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23 12-18-1301. Title.

24 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Child  
25 Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program".

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27 12-18-1302. Legislative intent.

28 It is the intent of the General Assembly that this subchapter:

29 (1) Reduce the number of complaints and allegations made against  
30 employees of the child welfare system in this state;

31 (2) Assist in creating opportunities for the improved training  
32 and skill enhancement of each person who is assigned to investigate child  
33 maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment and of other employees of the  
34 child welfare system;

35 (3) Increase transparency in the investigation of child  
36 maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment; and



1           (4) Improve public confidence and trust in the child welfare  
2 system operations of this state.

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4           12-18-1303. Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot  
5 Program.

6           (a) There is created a program to be known as the "Child Maltreatment  
7 Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program".

8           (b) The program shall be developed, implemented, and administered by  
9 the Department of Human Services in collaboration with the Department of  
10 Arkansas State Police.

11           (c) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Arkansas  
12 State Police shall:

13                   (1) Work cooperatively to establish criteria and recommendations  
14 for the use of a body camera by an investigator during the investigation of  
15 child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment; and

16                   (2) Require no more than ten (10) investigators to each use a  
17 body camera during his or her interview of a person required to be  
18 interviewed as part of an investigation of child maltreatment or suspected  
19 child maltreatment in § 12-18-605.

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21           12-18-1304. Funding

22           (a) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Arkansas  
23 State Police shall:

24                   (1) Cooperatively work to fund the implementation of the Child  
25 Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program; and

26                   (2) Execute a memorandum of understanding to delineate each  
27 department's participation, obligation, and cooperation in providing funds  
28 for the implementation of the program.

29           (b) The General Assembly recognizes that the agreement under  
30 subsection (a) of this section is not:

31                   (1) A mandate by the General Assembly; or

32                   (2) An appropriation of funds by the General Assembly.

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34           SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera  
35 Pilot Program – Reporting.

36           By December 31, 2020, the Department of Human Services and the

1 Department of Arkansas State Police shall submit a joint report on whether or  
2 not the Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program has been  
3 successful and the requirements necessary to continue the use of a body  
4 camera by each investigator of child maltreatment or suspected child  
5 maltreatment:

6 (1) Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth; and

7 (2) House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative  
8 and Military Affairs.

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