

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **79th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1993**

A Bill

ACT 1033 OF 1993
HOUSE BILL 1916

4 **By: Representatives Smith and Steele**

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO REQUIRE PROPER PLANNING OF CHILD WELFARE REFORM
9 BY ENSURING MAXIMUM UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE RESOURCES;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

13 "TO REQUIRE PROPER PLANNING OF CHILD WELFARE REFORM."

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

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17 SECTION 1. The General Assembly finds that the requirements with which
18 the state must comply pursuant to the consent decree from Angela R., et al. v.
19 Bill Clinton, et al. and the Arkansas Child Welfare Reform Document demand
20 close observation and study; that the future of the State_s children and youth
21 relies heavily on compliance with the decree; that the financial security of
22 the State is in jeopardy if the State has difficulty or is unable to comply
23 with the consent decree because of the voluminous number of lawsuits that
24 could ensue; that the State has a responsibility to protect children and youth
25 from harm and ensure their healthy development; that the Child Welfare
26 Compliance and Oversight Committee will cease to exist on December 31, 1994;
27 that in order to protect the interests of the State, it is crucial that
28 oversight of child welfare issues continue; that oversight by a committee that
29 focuses specifically on problems relating to children and youth would be the
30 most advantageous manner of monitoring compliance with the consent decree and
31 related problems. Therefore, it is declared to be the intent of the
32 legislature to require the Joint Committee on Children and Youth to monitor
33 compliance with the consent decree, to report annually regarding compliance
34 and to review all bills pertaining to the safety, health, mental health,
35 development and problems of children and youth.

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