

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
4

As Engrossed: H2/11/99 S3/4/99

A Bill

Act 704 of 1999
HOUSE BILL 1447

5 By: Representatives Madison, Lynn
6 By: Senator Kennedy
7
8

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT CHILDREN OF DIVORCING PARENTS
10 MAY HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THEIR DIVORCING PARENTS
11 ATTENDING A PARENTING CLASS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."
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Subtitle

14 "TO PROVIDE THAT CHILDREN OF DIVORCING
15 PARENTS MAY HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THEIR
16 DIVORCING PARENTS ATTENDING A PARENTING
17 CLASS."
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. (a) When the parties to a divorce action have minor children
24 residing with one or both parents, the court, prior to entering a decree of
25 divorce, may require the parties to complete at least two (2) hours of classes
26 concerning parenting issues faced by divorced parents or to submit to
27 mediation in regard to addressing parenting issues.

28 (b) Each party shall be responsible for his or her cost of attending
29 classes or mediation.

30 (1) The parties may choose a mediator from a list provided by the
31 judge, of those mediators who have met the Arkansas Alternative Dispute
32 Resolution Commission's requirement guidelines for inclusion on a court
33 connected mediation roster, or the parties may select a mediator not on the
34 roster, if approved by the judge.

35 (2) A party may move to dispense with the referral to mediation
36 for good cause shown.

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

/s/ Madison

APPROVED: 3/18/1999