

Act 421 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 421

SB252

By: Senator Beebe

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-12-511 PERTAINING TO  
PRIVILEGED COMMUNICATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-12-511 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"12-12-511. Privileged communications as evidence - Exception. (a) Any provision of the Arkansas Uniform Rules of Evidence notwithstanding, and except as provided in subsection (b) of this section any privilege between husband and wife or between any professional person (except the privilege between a lawyer and client, and the privilege between a minister including a Christian Science Practitioner and any person confessing to or being counseled by the minister) including, but not limited to, physicians, counselors, hospitals, clinics, day care centers, and schools and their clients shall not constitute grounds for excluding evidence at any proceeding regarding child abuse, sexual abuse, or neglect of a child or the cause thereof.

(b) Any provision to the Arkansas Uniform Rules of Evidence notwithstanding, any privilege between a minister and any person confessing to or being counseled by the minister shall not constitute grounds for excluding evidence at any dependent/neglect proceeding or proceedings involving custody of a minor."

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. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

APPROVED: March 8, 1989

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