

1 State of Arkansas  
2 89th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2013  
4

# A Bill

DRAFT SAG/KFW  
SENATE BILL

5 By: Senator P. Malone  
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## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CHILD MALTREATMENT VICTIMS TO BE  
9 INTERVIEWED BY FORENSIC INTERVIEWERS TRAINED IN CHILD  
10 MALTREATMENT CASES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

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13 TO REQUIRE CHILD MALTREATMENT VICTIMS TO  
14 BE INTERVIEWED BY FORENSIC INTERVIEWERS  
15 TRAINED IN CHILD MALTREATMENT CASES.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-18-608 is amended to read as follows:  
22 12-18-608. Interview of the alleged child victim.

23 (a) A person conducting an investigation of a child victim under this  
24 chapter shall have the discretion:

25 (1) In the child's best interest, to limit the persons allowed  
26 to be present when a child is being interviewed concerning allegations of  
27 child maltreatment; and

28 (2) As it relates to the integrity of the investigation, to  
29 limit persons present during an interview.

30 (b)(1) The interview with the child victim shall be conducted separate  
31 and apart from the alleged offender or any representative or attorney for the  
32 alleged offender.

33 (2) However, if the age or abilities of the child victim render  
34 an interview impossible, the investigation shall include observation of the  
35 child.

36 (c) A person conducting an investigation of a child victim under this

1 chapter shall be a forensic interviewer specifically trained in child  
2 maltreatment cases.

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