

1 State of Arkansas

2 80th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1995

4 By: Representative Wilkins

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For An Act To Be Entitled

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"AN ACT TO ESTABLISH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY TRAINING

9

PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS OF JUVENILES ADJUDICATED

10

DELINQUENT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

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"TO ESTABLISH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

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TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS OR

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GUARDIANS OF JUVENILES ADJUDICATED

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DELINQUENT."

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

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20 SECTION 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Parental
21 Responsibility Training Program Act of 1995".

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23 SECTION 2. (a) By no later than January 1, 1996, the Youth Services
24 Division of the Arkansas Department of Human Services, after consultation
25 with the Children and Family Services Division of the Department of Human
26 Services, the Administrative Office of the Court, and representatives of the
27 juvenile court having exclusive original jurisdiction over proceedings in
28 which a juvenile is alleged to be delinquent, shall establish standards and
29 guidelines for court-ordered parental responsibility training programs for
30 the parent, both parents, or the guardian of any juvenile adjudicated
31 delinquent.

32 (b) Such guidelines shall include, but shall not be limited to,
33 instruction in the following:

34 (1) Physical, mental, social, and emotional child growth and
35 development;

1 (2) Skill development for parents in providing for the child's
2 learning and development, including teaching the child responsibility for his
3 actions;

4 (3) Prevention of drug abuse;

5 (4) Family structure, function, and management; and

6 (5) The physical, mental, emotional, social, economic, and
7 psychological aspects of interpersonal and family relationships.

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9 SECTION 3. The Director of the Youth Services Division shall:

10 (1) By August 1, 1996, ensure that at least one (1) parental
11 responsibility training program is available in every judicial district in
12 the state of Arkansas for discretionary use by the juvenile courts in that
13 judicial district;

14 (2) Ensure additional statewide availability of parental
15 responsibility training programs in an orderly fashion, as funds are
16 available, with any program modification after the initial placement in each
17 judicial district based on analysis of an annual evaluation report and
18 consultation with the Administrative Office of the Court, representatives of
19 the juvenile court system, and professionals who are nationally recognized in
20 the field.

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22 SECTION 4. (a) The Youth Services Division of the Department of Human
23 Services shall be the lead administrative agency for parental responsibility
24 training programs and may receive funding, in the form of grants,
25 appropriations, and court-ordered fees, for the implementation of such
26 services.

27 (b) The Youth Services Division shall:

28 (1) Provide the coordination of and planning for the
29 implementation of parental responsibility training programs;

30 (2) Provide standards for the parental responsibility training
31 programs;

32 (3) Monitor the services to ensure they meet measurable
33 standards of performance as set forth in state law and as developed by the
34 Youth Services Division; and

35 (4) Provide the initial training curriculum and approve any on-

1 going curriculum of parental responsibility training programs.

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3 SECTION 5. (a) The Youth Services Division of the Department of Human
4 Services may provide parental responsibility training programs directly or
5 may contract with a private, nonprofit social service agency or qualified
6 individual to provide such programs.

7 (b) In the event a nonprofit social service agency or qualified
8 individual is contracted by the Youth Services Division, to provide parental
9 responsibility training programs, the contract shall include:

10 (1) Requirements for provider acceptance of any parents or
11 guardians referred by the juvenile court for parental responsibility training
12 program;

13 (2) Completion of the required curriculum for parental
14 responsibility training program and certification of such completion to the
15 juvenile court; and

16 (3) Provisions that payment for programs shall come from the
17 Youth Services Division to the provider; and

18 (4) Provisions for program evaluation as directed by the Youth
19 Services Division.

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21 SECTION 6. Parental responsibility training programs authorized under
22 this act shall be provided only to those parents or guardians of juveniles
23 adjudicated delinquent and ordered by the court to attend such programs.

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25 SECTION 7. (a) The Director of the Youth Services Division of the
26 Department of Human Services shall conduct a yearly evaluation of parental
27 responsibility training programs which shall include the following:

28 (1) The number of parents or guardians ordered by the juvenile
29 court to attend and complete parental responsibility training programs;

30 (2) The number of parents or guardians attending and completing
31 parental responsibility training programs established under this act;

32 (3) The costs expended by the Youth Services Division for the
33 parental responsibility training programs and the amount reimbursed by
34 parents or guardians under court order; and

35 (4) An overall evaluation of parental responsibility training

1 programs established under this act and recommendations for continued
2 development of such programs to ensure statewide availability.

3 (b) A report of the annual evaluation shall be provided to the
4 Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Children and Youth, the Chairmen of the
5 House and Senate Judiciary Committees, and the Director of the Administrative
6 Office of the Courts.

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8 SECTION 8. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
9 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
10 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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12 SECTION 9. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
13 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
14 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
15 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
16 act are declared to be severable.

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18 SECTION 10. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
19 hereby repealed.

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