

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

State of Arkansas

*As Engrossed: 1/22/99 H2/2/99*

82nd General Assembly

## A Bill

Regular Session, 1999

HOUSE BILL 1111

By: Representative Madison

By: Senator Ross

### For An Act To Be Entitled

"AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-12-507 TO CLARIFY THAT THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE SHALL BE PROVIDED NOTIFICATION OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

### Subtitle

"TO CLARIFY THAT THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE SHALL BE PROVIDED NOTIFICATION OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT. "

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-12-507 is amended to read as follows:

"12-12-507. Reports of suspected abuse or neglect.

(a) Any person with reasonable cause to suspect child maltreatment or that a child has died as a result of child maltreatment, or who observes a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in child maltreatment, may immediately notify ~~central intake~~ the child abuse hotline or law enforcement.

(b) When any physician, surgeon, coroner, dentist, osteopath, resident intern, licensed nurse, medical personnel who may be engaged in admission, examination, care, or treatment of persons, teacher, school official, school counselor, social worker, family service worker, day care center worker, or any other child or foster care worker, mental health professional, peace officer, law enforcement official, prosecuting attorney, or judge has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to child

1 maltreatment, or that a child has died as a result of child maltreatment, or  
2 who observes the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which  
3 would reasonably result in child maltreatment, he shall immediately notify  
4 ~~central intake~~ the child abuse hotline or law enforcement.

5 (c) No privilege or contract shall relieve anyone required by this  
6 subchapter to make notification of the requirement of making notification.

7 (d) In the event that ~~central intake~~ the child abuse hotline receives  
8 notification that a client or a resident of any facility licensed or  
9 registered by the State of Arkansas has been subjected to child maltreatment  
10 while at such facility, ~~central intake~~ the child abuse hotline shall  
11 immediately notify that facility's licensing or registering authority of its  
12 receipt of initial notification of suspected maltreatment.

13 (e) When a person, agency, corporation, or partnership then providing  
14 substitute care for any child in the custody of the department or a department  
15 employee or employee's spouse or other person residing in the home is reported  
16 as being suspected of child maltreatment, the investigation shall be conducted  
17 pursuant to procedures established by the department. Such procedures shall  
18 include referral of allegations to the Department of Arkansas State Police or  
19 appropriate law enforcement agency should the allegation involve severe  
20 maltreatment.

21 (f) The investigating agency shall immediately notify local law  
22 enforcement on all reports of severe maltreatment.

23  
24 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature  
25 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code  
26 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

27  
28 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to  
29 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect  
30 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without  
31 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this  
32 act are declared to be severable.

33  
34 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are  
35 hereby repealed.

36 /s/ Madison, et al