

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1257

4
5 By: Representative Madison
6 By: Senator Ross

For An Act To Be Entitled

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10 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 12-12-509 TO CLARIFY
11 THAT NOTIFICATION OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
12 CONCERNING INITIAL CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS IS AT
13 THE DISCRETION OF THE INDIVIDUAL PROSECUTOR; AND FOR
14 OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

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17 "TO CLARIFY THAT NOTIFICATION OF THE
18 PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE CONCERNING
19 INITIAL CHILD MALTREATMENT REPORTS IS AT
20 THE DISCRETION OF THE INDIVIDUAL
21 PROSECUTOR. "

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

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26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 12-12-509(a) is amended to read as follows:

27 "(a)(1) The department shall cause an investigation to be made upon
28 receiving initial notification of suspected child maltreatment.

29 (2)(A) All investigations shall begin within seventy-two (72)
30 hours.

31 (B) However, if the notice contains an allegation of severe
32 maltreatment then the department shall immediately notify law enforcement, and
33 the department shall initiate an investigation in cooperation with law
34 enforcement agencies and the prosecuting attorney within twenty-four (24)
35 hours. The prosecuting attorney may provide written notice to the department,
36 that the department does not need to provide notification of the initial

1 mal treatment report to the prosecuting attorney's office. Upon receiving the
2 notification, the department shall not be required to provide notification of
3 the initial mal treatment report to the prosecuting attorney's office."
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5 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
6 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
7 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.
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9 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
10 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
11 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
12 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
13 act are declared to be severable.
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15 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
16 hereby repealed.
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