

1 State of Arkansas  
2 92nd General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2019  
4

As Engrossed: H3/13/19

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 250

5 By: Senator A. Clark  
6 By: Representative Burch  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL  
10 NEGLECT; TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING REPORTS OF  
11 EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT MADE TO THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE;  
12 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13  
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## Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING EDUCATIONAL  
17 NEGLECT; AND TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING  
18 REPORTS OF EDUCATIONAL NEGLECT MADE TO  
19 THE CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE.  
20  
21

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-27-303(36)(A)(ix), concerning the  
25 definition of "neglect" and other definitions applicable to the Arkansas  
26 Juvenile Code of 1989, is amended to read as follows:

27 (ix)(a) Failure to ensure a child between six (6)  
28 years of age and seventeen (17) years of age is enrolled in school or is  
29 being legally home-schooled; or

30 (b) As a result of ~~the acts or omissions an~~  
31 act or omission by the ~~juvenile's~~ parent, custodian, or guardian of a child,  
32 the ~~juvenile~~ child is habitually and without justification absent from  
33 school.  
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35 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 12-18-103(14)(A)(viii) and (ix), concerning  
36 the definition of "neglect" and other definitions applicable to the Child



1 Maltreatment Act, are amended to read as follows:

2 (viii) Failure to appropriately supervise the child  
3 that results in the child's being placed in:

4 (a) Inappropriate circumstances creating a  
5 dangerous situation; or

6 (b) A situation that puts the child at risk of  
7 harm; ~~or~~

8 (ix) Failure to ensure a child between six (6) years  
9 of age and seventeen (17) years of age is enrolled in school or is being  
10 legally ~~home-schooled~~ home-schooled; or

11 ~~(x) as a result of an~~ An act or omission by the  
12 ~~child's parent, custodian, or guardian of the child, that results in~~ the  
13 child ~~is~~ being habitually and without justification absent from school.  
14

15 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 12-18-304(g), concerning when the Child  
16 Abuse Hotline must accept a call concerning educational neglect, is amended  
17 to read as follows:

18 (g) The Child Abuse Hotline shall accept ~~each call~~ a report regarding  
19 educational neglect, if the:

20 (1) Report alleges that a parent, custodian, or guardian of a  
21 child who is at least (6) years of age and under eighteen (18) years of age  
22 failed to enroll the child in school and lawfully home-school the child; or

23 (2) Report alleges that:

24 (A) An act or omission of a parent, custodian, or guardian  
25 of a child who is at least six (6) years of age and under eighteen (18) years  
26 of age caused the child to be absent from school;

27 (B) The child's absence from school was not caused by the  
28 refusal of the child to attend school;

29 (C) The child has been habitually absent from school  
30 without justification; and

31 (D) The child's absence from school has had a negative  
32 impact on the child's performance at school.

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34 /s/A. Clark

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