

1 State of Arkansas  
2 88th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2011  
4  
5 By: Senator J. Dismang  
6

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 527

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE IN-  
9 SERVICE TRAINING TO LICENSED SCHOOL PERSONNEL ON THE  
10 SIGNS OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND THE RESOURCES  
11 AVAILABLE TO CHILD VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE; TO  
12 REQUIRE THE CHILD HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO  
13 PREPARE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE  
14 IN-SERVICE TRAINING AND FOR PARENT EDUCATIONAL  
15 MATERIALS CONCERNING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE; AND FOR  
16 OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

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19 TO REQUIRE A SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PROVIDE  
20 IN-SERVICE TRAINING TO LICENSED SCHOOL  
21 PERSONNEL ON THE SIGNS OF CHILD SEXUAL  
22 ABUSE AND THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO  
23 CHILD VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE.  
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27 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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29 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 6, Chapter 18, Subchapter 7 is amended  
30 to add an additional section to read as follows:

31 6-18-708. In-service training on child sexual abuse.

32 (a) As used in this section:

33 (1) "Licensed school personnel" means a person who works with  
34 students in a public school or school district for whom the license is a  
35 condition of employment under the rules of the State Board of Education,  
36 including without limitation a:



- 1                   (A) School or school district administrator;
- 2                   (B) Classroom teacher;
- 3                   (C) Coach for a school athletics program;
- 4                   (D) School guidance counselor;
- 5                   (E) School social worker;
- 6                   (F) School psychologist; and
- 7                   (G) School nurse; and

8                   (2) “Sexual abuse” means any sexual offense proscribed under §§  
 9 5-14-101 – 5-14-127, § 5-27-401 et seq., and the Arkansas Protection of  
 10 Children Against Exploitation Act of 1979, § 5-27-301 et seq.

11                   (b)(1) At least once every two (2) years, a school district shall  
 12 provide in-service training for licensed school personnel conducted by a  
 13 person with expertise in issues relating to child victims of sexual abuse.

14                   (2) The in-service training shall include at a minimum:

- 15                   (A) Identifying the warning signs that a child is a victim  
 16 of sexual abuse;
- 17                   (B) Listening to and communicating with a child who is or  
 18 exhibits signs of being a victim of sexual abuse;
- 19                   (C) Connecting a child victim of sexual abuse to  
 20 appropriate in-school services and other agencies, programs, and services  
 21 needed to provide the child with the emotional and educational support the  
 22 child needs to continue to be successful in school; and
- 23                   (D) Implementing the school district’s policies,  
 24 procedures, and protocols with regard to child victims of sexual abuse,  
 25 including confidentiality.

26                   (c) The in-service training shall:

27                   (1) Follow the recommendations and guidelines of the Child  
 28 Health Advisory Committee; and

29                   (2) Meet Department of Education requirements for professional  
 30 development credit.

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32                   SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-7-134, concerning the powers and duties  
 33 of the Child Health Advisory Committee, is amended to add an additional  
 34 subsection to read as follows:

35                   (d) The committee shall develop policy recommendations and guidelines  
 36 for:

1           (1) The in-service training of licensed school personnel  
2 concerning child victims of sexual abuse under § 6-18-708; and

3           (2) Educational information that school districts may provide to  
4 parents or guardians of children enrolled in public schools in Arkansas on:

5                   (A) The warning signs that a child is a victim of sexual  
6 abuse; and

7                   (B) How to seek assistance, referrals, counseling, or  
8 other resources for a child victim of sexual abuse or the parent or legal  
9 guardian of the child victim.

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