

State of Arkansas  
89th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2013

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 976

By: Senators J. Dismang, E. Williams

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF A CHILD SAFETY CENTER; TO ESTABLISH ACCESS FOR SPECIALIZED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION OF A CHILD SAFETY CENTER; AND TO ESTABLISH ACCESS FOR SPECIALIZED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-5-103(1), concerning the definition of "child safety center", is amended to read as follows:

(1)(A) "Child safety center" means a not-for-profit child-friendly facility that provides a location for forensic interviews, and forensic medical examinations, and forensic ensures access for specialized mental health examinations services during the course of a child maltreatment investigation.

(B) A "child safety center" is commonly known as a child advocacy center; and

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 9-5-110(d)(1), concerning an interagency memorandum of understanding, is amended to read as follows:

(1) When available and appropriate during the course of a child maltreatment investigation on reports of alleged sexual abuse, and when appropriate, alleged severe physical abuse, the child safety center shall be utilized for forensic interviews, and forensic medical examinations, and



forensic will ensure access for specialized mental health examinations  
services; and

**APPROVED: 04/02/2013**