

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Third Extraordinary Session, 2016

A Bill

Call Item 11
SENATE BILL 8

By: Senators Irvin, Hester, Bledsoe, Collins-Smith, J. Cooper, J. English, J. Hendren, J. Hutchinson,
Standridge, G. Stubblefield

By: Representative D. Meeks

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS REGARDING
JUVENILE RECORDS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS
REGARDING JUVENILE RECORDS; AND TO
DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-28-217(a), concerning confidentiality of juvenile records, is amended to add an additional subdivision to read as follows:

(18)(A) A person, agency, or organization engaged in a bona fide research or evaluation project that is determined by the division to have value for the evaluation or development of policies to advance juvenile justice.

(B) Any confidential information provided by the Department of Human Services for a research, evaluation, or project in subdivision (a)(18)(A) of this section shall not be redisclosed or published.

SECTION 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that access to juvenile records for purposes of bona fide research promotes informed decision making and improves



case planning for delinquent youth. This act is immediately necessary to ensure that Arkansas is implementing risk and needs assessments with fidelity to improve outcomes for youth and juvenile justice. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.

APPROVED: 05/23/2016