

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1940

By: Representative C. Douglas

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT CONCERNING QUALIFYING REPORTS TO THE CHILD
ABUSE HOTLINE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF CHILD MALTREATMENT;
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

CONCERNING QUALIFYING REPORTS TO THE
CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE OF CERTAIN TYPES OF
CHILD MALTREATMENT.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-18-304 is amended to read as follows:

12-18-304. Qualifying reports of certain types of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment.

(a)(1) The Child Abuse Hotline shall accept a report of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment if any of the following intentional or knowing acts are alleged to occur:

(A) Throwing, kicking, burning, biting, or cutting a child;

(B) Striking a child with a closed fist;

(C) Shaking a child four (4) years of age or older; or

(D) Striking a child seven (7) years of age or older on the face or on the head.

(2) A report under this subsection shall not be determined to be true unless the child suffered an injury as the result of the act.

(b) The Child Abuse Hotline shall accept a report of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment if any of the following intentional or knowing acts are



alleged to occur:

- (1) Shaking a child three (3) years of age or younger;
- (2) Striking a child six (6) years of age or younger on the face or on the head;
- (3) Interfering with a child's breathing; or
- (4) Pinching, biting, or striking a child in the genital area.

(c)(1) The Child Abuse Hotline shall accept a report of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment if a child suffers an injury as the result of a restraint.

(2) The report shall be determined not to be true if the injury is a minor temporary mark or causes transient pain and was an acceptable restraint as provided under this chapter.

(d)(1) The Child Abuse Hotline shall accept a report of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment involving a bruise to a child even if at the time of the report the bruise is not visible if the bruising occurred:

- (A) Within the past fourteen (14) days; and
- (B) As a result of ~~physical-abuse~~ child maltreatment as

described under subsections (a)-(c) of this section.

(2) However, the report under this subsection shall not be determined to be true unless the existence of the bruise is corroborated.

(e) The Child Abuse Hotline shall not accept a report of:

(1) Environmental neglect pertaining to head lice unless the:

- (A) Head lice is chronic; or
- (B) Alleged victim currently has sores that require

immediate medical attention; or

(2) Educational neglect from a school unless the school has complied with § 6-18-222.