

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
89th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2013

As Engrossed: H3/28/13 S4/4/13
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1988

By: Representatives Baine, C. Armstrong, Fite, Gossage, Julian, Richey, Sabin, Wardlaw
By: Senator J. Key

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TASK FORCE FOR THE
PREVENTION THROUGH EDUCATION OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE;
TO STUDY "ERIN'S LAW" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

*TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS TASK FORCE FOR THE
PREVENTION THROUGH EDUCATION OF CHILD
SEXUAL ABUSE; AND TO STUDY "ERIN'S LAW".*

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

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. (a) There is established the "Arkansas Task Force for the Prevention Through Education of Child Sexual Abuse".

(b) The purposes of the task force are to:

(1) Gather information concerning the prevalence of child sexual abuse throughout Arkansas;

(2) Receive reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations;

(3) Make recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the State Board of Education concerning evidence-based ways to prevent child sexual abuse through education; and

(4) Make recommendations to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the



State Board of Education regarding curricula directed at preventing child sexual abuse through education.

(c) The task force shall consist of:

(1) The Commissioner of Education, or his or her designee;

(2) The Director of the Division of Children and Family Services of the Department of Human Services, or his or her designee;

(3) The Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or his or her designee;

(4) One (1) member appointed by the Governor;

(5) One (1) member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

(6) One (1) member appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate;

(7) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Association of Educational Administrators, or his or her designee;

(8) The Executive Director of the Arkansas School Boards Association, or his or her designee;

(9) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Education Association, or his or her designee;

(10) The Executive Director of the Arkansas Rural Education Association, or his or her designee;

(11) A representative from Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families;

(12) A representative from Arkansas Children's Hospital;

(13) A representative from the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board;

(14) A representative from the Arkansas Prosecuting Attorneys Association;

(15) A representative from the Arkansas Commission on Rape/Child Abuse/Domestic Violence;

(16) A representative from the Arkansas State CASA Association;
and

(17) A representative of children's advocacy centers.

(d)(1) The chair of the task force shall be elected by majority vote at the first meeting of the task force.

(2) All changes in task force chairmanship shall be decided by

majority vote of the task force.

(e)(1) The task force shall meet at the times and places that the chair deems necessary but not less than four (4) times per year.

(2) A simple majority of members of the task force shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

(3) All actions of the task force are by quorum.

(f) The Department of Education shall staff the task force.

(g) All members of the task force may receive expense reimbursement as provided under § 25-16-902 to be paid by the Department of Education if funds are available.

(h)(1) By October 1, 2014, the chair of the task force shall provide a report to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the State Board of Education.

(2) The report shall identify:

(A) Findings of the task force concerning the prevalence of child sexual abuse in Arkansas;

(B) Recommendations of the task force toward adopting and implementing age-appropriate curricula for students in kindergarten through grade five (K-5) concerning child sexual abuse prevention;

(C) Recommendations of the task force concerning the training of licensed and classified school personnel on the prevention and detection of child sexual abuse;

(D) Recommendations of the task force concerning the training of parents and guardians on the warning signs of child sexual abuse;

(E) Recommendations for the publication of counseling, assistance, services, and other resources for students affected by child sexual abuse; and

(F) Recommendations of the task force for the emotional and educational support for a victim of child sexual abuse.

(i) The task force shall expire on May 1, 2015.

/s/Baine