

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: H4/6/13  
**A Bill**

HOUSE BILL 2181

By: Representative Womack

**For An Act To Be Entitled**

AN ACT TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS; AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF PARENTS.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 9, Chapter 25, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

9-25-105. Right to parent.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States preserves the fundamental right of a parent to direct and govern the care, custody, and control of his or her child; and

(2) The right to parent has been recognized by the United States Supreme Court and the Arkansas Supreme Court.

(b) The state or an agency of the state shall not infringe upon the right to parent unless the state or a state agency has a compelling government interest.

(c) The state has a compelling government interest to protect the health, safety, and well-being of a child.

/s/Womack

