

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

A Bill

SENATE BILL 266

By: Senator Files

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT A PERSON WHO IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER NOTIFY CERTAIN CHURCHES OR OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP THAT HE OR SHE IS A REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REQUIRE THAT A PERSON WHO IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER AS A SEX OFFENDER NOTIFY CERTAIN CHURCHES OR OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP THAT HE OR SHE IS A REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 12-12-904(a)(1)(A), concerning the offense of failing to comply with sex offender registration and reporting requirements, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) A person is guilty of a Class C felony who:

(i) Fails to register or verify registration as required under this subchapter;

(ii) Fails to report a change of address, employment, education, or training as required under this subchapter;

(iii) Refuses to cooperate with the assessment process as required under this subchapter; ~~or~~

(iv) Files false paperwork or documentation regarding verification, change of information, or petitions to be removed from the registry; or



(v) Fails to notify a church or place of worship as required under § 12-12-928.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 12, Subchapter 9, is amended to read as follows:

12-12-928. Duty of a sex offender to notify certain churches or places of worship.

A person who is required to register as a sex offender under this subchapter is required to notify a religious leader of a church or other place of worship that the person is a registered sex offender or is required to register as a sex offender if the person:

(1) Is a member of the congregation of the church or other place of worship;

(2) Participates in any organized function or activity administered, supervised, or operated by the church or other place of worship; or

(3) Participates in any activity on the grounds of the church or other place of worship that involves a minor.