

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

State of Arkansas  
91st General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2017

As Engrossed: S3/20/17

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 777

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CHILD CUSTODY; AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING CHILD  
CUSTODY.

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

*SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 9-13-101, concerning the award of custody of a child, is amended to add an additional subsection to read as follows:*

*(f)(1) In all child custody cases, a child who is fourteen (14) years of age or older shall have the right to select the parent whom the child desires to be awarded custody of him or her.*

*(2) A child may select a custodial parent under this subsection no more than one (1) time every two (2) years from the date of the previous selection.*

*(3) A child's selection under this subsection is presumptive of the best interest of the child unless the court determines after considering other factors that an award of custody to the parent selected by the child is not in the best interest of the child.*

*(4) A child's selection under this subsection is insufficient to constitute a material change in circumstances in an action seeking a modification of the custody of the child.*

/s/L. Chesterfield

