

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 507

By: Senator L. Chesterfield

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE CONSIDERATION  
OF THE PREFERENCE OF A CHILD IN A CHILD CUSTODY  
PROCEEDING; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING THE  
CONSIDERATION OF THE PREFERENCE OF A  
CHILD IN A CHILD CUSTODY PROCEEDING.

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.

