

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

State of Arkansas  
92nd General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2019

# A Bill

SENATE BILL 587

By: Senator A. Clark

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO CREATE THE CHILD MALTREATMENT INVESTIGATION  
BODY CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

### Subtitle

TO CREATE THE CHILD MALTREATMENT  
INVESTIGATION BODY CAMERA PILOT PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 12, Chapter 18, is amended to add an additional subchapter to read as follows:

Subchapter 13 – Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program

12-18-1301. Title.

This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program".

12-18-1302. Legislative intent.

It is the intent of the General Assembly that this subchapter:

(1) Reduce the number of complaints and allegations made against employees of the child welfare system in this state;

(2) Assist in creating opportunities for the improved training and skill enhancement of each person who is assigned to investigate child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment and of other employees of the child welfare system;

(3) Increase transparency in the investigation of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment; and



(4) Improve public confidence and trust in the child welfare system operations of this state.

12-18-1303. Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program.

(a) There is created a program to be known as the "Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program".

(b) The program shall be developed, implemented, and administered by the Department of Human Services in collaboration with the Department of Arkansas State Police.

(c) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Arkansas State Police shall:

(1) Work cooperatively to establish criteria and recommendations for the use of a body camera by an investigator during the investigation of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment; and

(2) Require no more than ten (10) investigators to each use a body camera during his or her interview of a person required to be interviewed as part of an investigation of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment in § 12-18-605.

12-18-1304. Funding

(a) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Arkansas State Police shall:

(1) Cooperatively work to fund the implementation of the Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program; and

(2) Execute a memorandum of understanding to delineate each department's participation, obligation, and cooperation in providing funds for the implementation of the program.

(b) The General Assembly recognizes that the agreement under subsection (a) of this section is not:

(1) A mandate by the General Assembly; or

(2) An appropriation of funds by the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program – Reporting.

By December 31, 2020, the Department of Human Services and the

Department of Arkansas State Police shall submit a joint report on whether or not the Child Maltreatment Investigation Body Camera Pilot Program has been successful and the requirements necessary to continue the use of a body camera by each investigator of child maltreatment or suspected child maltreatment:

- (1) Senate Interim Committee on Children and Youth; and
- (2) House Committee on Aging, Children and Youth, Legislative and Military Affairs.