

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Fiscal Session, 2026

SR 13

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5 By: Senator J. Dismang

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8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

9 TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH IN
10 ARKANSAS AND TO COMMEND THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL
11 ADVOCATE (CASA) PROGRAMS.

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14 **Subtitle**

15 TO RECOGNIZE APRIL AS CHILD ABUSE
16 PREVENTION MONTH IN ARKANSAS AND TO
17 COMMEND THE COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL
18 ADVOCATE (CASA) PROGRAMS.

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20 WHEREAS, the children of Arkansas are among the state's most valuable
21 resources, and their safety, well-being, and success are vital to the
22 strength and future of our communities; and

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24 WHEREAS, child abuse and neglect remain serious concerns that affect
25 the physical, emotional, and developmental well-being of children across
26 Arkansas; and

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28 WHEREAS, preventing child abuse and neglect requires the commitment of
29 families, communities, nonprofit organizations, and public leaders working
30 together to ensure children are protected and supported; and

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32 WHEREAS, April is recognized nationally as Child Abuse Prevention
33 Month, a time dedicated to increasing awareness, strengthening families, and
34 promoting community involvement in the protection of children; and

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36 WHEREAS, Arkansas is home to twenty-three (23) Court Appointed Special



1 Advocate (CASA) programs that serve children in the foster care system by
2 recruiting, training, and supporting volunteers appointed by judges to
3 advocate for the best interests of children who have experienced abuse or
4 neglect; and

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6 WHEREAS, CASA volunteers provide vital advocacy by gathering
7 information, making recommendations to the court, and helping ensure that
8 children have the opportunity to achieve safe, stable, and permanent homes;
9 and

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11 WHEREAS, in 2025, two thousand seven hundred eighty (2,780) children in
12 Arkansas were served by more than one thousand three hundred (1,300) CASA
13 advocates, demonstrating a strong commitment by volunteers and professionals
14 to improving outcomes for children in foster care; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Senate recognizes the importance of raising awareness
17 about child abuse prevention and commends CASA programs, their staff, and
18 volunteers for their dedicated service to children and families across the
19 state,

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21 NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
23 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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25 THAT the Senate recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in
26 Arkansas and encourage all citizens to support efforts that strengthen
27 families, protect children, and promote safe and nurturing environments.

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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be
30 provided to the Arkansas CASA programs by the Secretary of the Senate as a
31 symbol of the Senate's respect and appreciation.

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