

Act 686 of the 1989 Regular Session.

Act 686

HB1421

By: Representative Mahony

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE AUTHORITY TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES TO DEVELOP AND TEST THE FEASIBILITY OF A CENTRALIZED CLEARINGHOUSE FOR THE COLLECTION OF CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS."

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

SECTION 1. The Child Support Enforcement Unit is authorized to develop and test the feasibility of a centralized clearinghouse system for the payment and collection of all child support payments.

SECTION 2. Upon an agreement with the affected judges, clerk, and county judge, the Child Support Enforcement Unit shall designate up to four (4) counties of various population, geographic location, and economic development for test purposes. The Child Support Enforcement Unit shall notify the court in each of the designated counties of their selection 30 days prior to implementation of the test study.

SECTION 3. The clerk of the court shall provide to the Child Support Enforcement Unit all information necessary on child support payments paid through the registry of the court including, but not limited to, the name, address, social security number, and the employer of plaintiff and defendant when available to the clerk through the court records.

SECTION 4. In those counties selected, child support payments made to the centralized clearinghouse shall be considered the same as paid through the registry of the court as required in Arkansas Code Annotated 9-12-312 and 9-10-109.

SECTION 5. The Child Support Enforcement Unit shall provide to the clerk of the court regular reports of child support payments made through the centralized clearinghouse system. Said reports shall be considered the record of payment received by the clerk and shall carry the same force and effect with all statutory privileges attaching as provided in Arkansas Code Annotated 9-14-230 and 9-14-231 for those payments made directly through the registry of the court.

SECTION 6. Upon completion of the test study, the Child Support Enforcement Unit shall report to the State Commission on Child Support and the Director of the Department of Human Services the success and feasibility of statewide application of the centralized clearinghouse system. Upon recommendation of the commission with the concurrence of the Director, authority is granted to the Director to implement the centralized clearinghouse system for the collection of all child support payments statewide.

SECTION 7. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature are emendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 9. All provisions of this law shall expire on April 1, 1997.

APPROVED: March 20, 1989

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