State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: S3/11/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly 3 Regular Session, 1999 SENATE BILL 509 4 5 By: Senator Hopkins 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 9-14-237 CONCERNING THE 9 ADJUSTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS REMAINING WHEN 10 THE OBLIGATION FOR ONE (1) CHILD EXPIRES; AND FOR 11 12 OTHER PURPOSES. " 13 **Subtitle** 14 "AN ACT CONCERNING THE ADJUSTMENT OF 15 16 CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATIONS REMAINING WHEN THE OBLIGATION FOR ONE (1) CHILD 17 EXPIRES. " 18 19 20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 21 22 Arkansas Code 9-14-237 is amended to read as follows: 23 "9-14-237. Expiration of child support obligation. 24 (a)(1) An obligor's duty to pay child support for a child shall 25 automatically terminate by operation of law when the child reaches eighteen 26 (18) years of age or should have graduated from high school, whichever is 27 28 later, or when the child is emancipated by a court of competent jurisdiction, 29 marries, or dies, unless the court order for child support specifically extends child support after such circumstances. 30 31 (2) Provided, however, that any unpaid child support obligations owed under a judgment or in arrearage pursuant to a child support order shall 32 be satisfied pursuant to § 9-14-235. 33 (b)(1) If the obligor has additional child support obligations after 34 the duty to pay support for a child terminates, the court shall reassess the 35 remaining obligations then either the obligor, custodial parent, physical 36

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custodian, or the Office of Child Support Enforcement may, within thirty (30)
days subsequent to the expiration of the ten (10) day period allowed for the
notification as provided in subsection (b) (3) herein, file a motion with a
court of competent jurisdiction requesting that the court determine the amount
of the child support obligation for the remaining children.

- (2) The remaining obligations shall, subsequent to the expiration of the thirty (30) day period contained in subsection (b) (1), adjusted by operation of law to an amount to be determined by using the most recent version of the family support chart pursuant to § 9-12-312(a)(2) for any remaining children for whom an obligation for child support exists.
- 11 (3) If the most recent child support order either was entered
  12 prior to the adoption of the family support chart by the Arkansas Supreme
  13 Court, or, the support amount, as indicated by the order, deviated from the
  14 family support chart, then the issue of the amount of the obligor's child
  15 support obligation shall be decided by a court of competent jurisdiction.
  - (2) (4) In the event a review is requested, the court shall apply the family support chart for the remaining number of children from the date of the termination of the duty, subject to any changed circumstances, which shall be noted in writing by the court. Deviation from the family support chart shall be noted in the court order, or on the record as appropriate.
  - termination of the duty of support to the <u>custodial parent</u>, <u>physical custodian</u>, the clerk of the court responsible for receipt of the child support payments, the obligor's employer, if income withholding is in effect, and the Office of Child Support Enforcement, if applicable, within ten (10) days of the termination of the duty of support. The obligor shall enclose with the written notification of termination a copy of the most recent child support order. The notification shall state the name and age of each child for whom the obligation to pay child support has ceased, and the name and age of children set out in prior terminations of child support made pursuant to this subsection.
  - (c) No statute of limitations shall apply to an action brought for the collection of a child support obligation of arrearage against any party who leaves or remains outside the state of Arkansas with the purpose to avoid the payment of child support."

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SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

13 /s/ Hopki ns