

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL  
ATTORNEY GENERAL



Office of The Attorney General  
**State of Connecticut**

**TESTIMONY OF  
ATTORNEY GENERAL RICHARD BLUMENTHAL  
BEFORE THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE  
MARCH 24, 2006**

I appreciate the opportunity to support Senate Bill 57, An Act Concerning Establishment and Enforcement of Child Support in Title IV-D Cases.

This legislation makes a number of minor and substantive changes to our child support laws, including requiring notice to the Attorney General of the filing of termination of parental rights and emancipation of minors cases to ensure that child support obligations are protected, allows a court to consider a prisoner's assets as well as income when establishing or modifying child support orders, limiting past due support obligations of a child born out of wedlock to three years from the date of acknowledgment or the filing of a paternity action.

The Attorney General's office, the Judicial Branch, and the Department of Social Services collaborate to collect more than \$225 million in child support annually of which more than \$42 million flows to the General Fund in the form of reimbursement for state assistance. Unfortunately, there are tens of millions of dollars in unpaid child support obligations. These court ordered obligations are also a moral obligation on the part of the parent to provide financially for their sons and daughters. My office, along with the Judicial Branch and the Department of Social Services, is committed to ensuring that these children receive critical financial assistance from their parents.

Senate Bill 57 facilitates the collection of child support in Connecticut. I urge the committee's favorable consideration of Senate Bill 57.