



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

Raised Bill No. 326

LCO No. 1950

01950_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE CHILD SUPPORT AND ARREARAGE
GUIDELINES TO BE UPDATED EVERY TWO YEARS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 46b-215a of the general statutes is repealed and
2 the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2008*):

3 (a) The Commission for Child Support Guidelines is established (1)
4 to review the child support guidelines promulgated pursuant to
5 section 8 of public act 85-548*, (2) to establish criteria for the
6 establishment of guidelines to ensure the appropriateness of child
7 support awards, and (3) to issue updated guidelines not later than
8 October 1, 1993, and every four years thereafter, until October 1, 2008,
9 after which date such guidelines shall be updated as provided in
10 subsection (c) of this section.

11 (b) Not later than January 1, 1992, the commission shall also
12 establish criteria and promulgate guidelines to ensure that such orders
13 of payment on any arrearage and past due support shall be based on
14 the obligor's ability to pay. Such guidelines shall also ensure the
15 appropriateness of periodic payments of arrearages when the obligor

16 (1) is the child's legal guardian and resides with the child or (2) is not
17 the child's legal guardian but has resided with the child either for at
18 least six months immediately preceding the order of payment of
19 arrearage or for at least six months of the twelve months immediately
20 preceding such order. In such cases, the commission shall consider
21 exemptions similar to those in the uniform contribution scale adopted
22 pursuant to section 4a-12 of the 2008 supplement to the general
23 statutes.

24 (c) Updated arrearage guidelines shall be issued at the same time as
25 the child support guidelines. Not later than October 1, 2008, the
26 commission shall examine the arrearage and child support guidelines
27 that became effective August 1, 2005, and shall issue updated
28 guidelines not later than April 1, 2009, and every two years thereafter.

29 (d) (1) The commission shall consist of eleven members as follows:

30 (A) The Chief Court Administrator, or [his] a designee; [, the]

31 (B) The Commissioner of Social Services, or [his] a designee; [, the]

32 (C) The Attorney General, or [his] a designee; [, the]

33 (D) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
34 committee on judiciary, or their designees; [and a]

35 (E) A representative of the Connecticut Bar Association; [, a]

36 (F) A representative of legal services; [, a]

37 (G) A person who represents the financial concerns of child support
38 obligors; and [a]

39 (H) A representative of the Permanent Commission on the Status of
40 Women. [, all of whom]

41 (2) Members under subparagraphs (E) to (H), inclusive, of
42 subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be appointed by the Governor.

43 (3) The chairperson of the commission shall be elected by the
44 members of the commission.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	46b-215a

Statement of Purpose:

To provide that the child support and arrearage guidelines be examined and updated every two years, instead of every four years as currently required.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]