



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 633**

February Session, 2014

House Bill No. 5526

*House of Representatives, April 17, 2014*

The Committee on Judiciary reported through REP. FOX, G. of the 146th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## ***AN ACT CONCERNING DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGORS.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (l) of section 17b-179 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2014*):

4 (l) The Bureau of Child Support Enforcement shall arrange to  
5 provide a single centralized automated system for the reporting of  
6 collections on all accounts established for the collection of all IV-D  
7 support orders. Such reporting shall be made available to the Family  
8 Support Magistrate Division and to all state agencies which have a  
9 cooperative agreement with the IV-D agency. Such automated system  
10 shall include a state case registry which complies with federal law and  
11 regulations. The state case registry shall contain information on each  
12 support order established or modified in this state. The Bureau of  
13 Child Support Enforcement, utilizing information contained in the  
14 state case registry, shall establish, maintain and periodically update a  
15 list of all delinquent child support obligors. The list shall, at a

16 minimum, contain the name, residential address and amount of the  
 17 delinquent child support owed by a child support obligor, exclusive of  
 18 any amount of child support owed for which an appeal is pending.  
 19 The Bureau of Child Support Enforcement shall publish on the  
 20 Department of Social Services' Internet web site, the names, residential  
 21 addresses and amounts of delinquent child support owed by the one  
 22 hundred individuals having the highest delinquent child support  
 23 obligations. For purposes of this subsection, "delinquent child support  
 24 obligor" means an obligor who (1) owes overdue child support,  
 25 accruing after the entry of a court order, in an amount which exceeds  
 26 ninety days of periodic payments on a current child support or  
 27 arrearage payment order, or (2) has failed to make court ordered  
 28 medical or dental insurance coverage available within ninety days of  
 29 the issuance of a court order or fails to maintain such coverage  
 30 pursuant to a court order for a period of ninety days.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2014	17b-179(l)

**JUD**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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***OFA Fiscal Note******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None***Explanation***

The bill requires the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE) to manage a list of all delinquent child support obligors, which has no fiscal impact.

***The Out Years******State Impact:*** None***Municipal Impact:*** None

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5526*****AN ACT CONCERNING DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGORS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Bureau of Child Support Enforcement (BCSE) to (1) establish, maintain, and periodically update a list of all delinquent child support obligors and (2) publish a list, on the Department of Social Services' (DSS') website, of the 100 individuals with the highest delinquent child support obligations. Such lists must contain, at a minimum, the obligors' names, residential addresses, and amounts of delinquent child support owed, excluding any amount for which an appeal is pending.

Under the bill, a "delinquent child support obligor" is a person who (1) owes an amount of overdue child support accruing after the entry of a court order, that is more than three times his or her periodic payments on a current child support order or an arrearage payment order or (2) has failed to make medical or dental insurance coverage available within 90 days after the issuance of a court order or failed to maintain the court-ordered insurance coverage for 90 days.

The bill requires BCSE to establish the lists using information from the state case registry. Under existing law, BCSE uses the state case registry, which is part of a centralized automated system, to store and report information on all "IV-D child support cases" established or modified in Connecticut (see BACKGROUND).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

**BACKGROUND*****IV-D Child Support Cases***

BCSE was established and authorized to administer the child support program mandated by Title IV-D of the Social Security Act (CGS § 46b-231(13)). "IV-D child support cases" are cases in which the BCSE provides child support enforcement services related to children who are beneficiaries of temporary family assistance (TFA), Medicaid, or foster care (CGS § 46b-231(13)).

**Related Bill**

sSB 458, favorably reported by the Judiciary Committee:

1. increases, from six to eight, the number of Department of Social Services (DSS) special policemen authorized to serve child support *capias* orders (i.e., orders to compel someone to appear in court);
2. authorizes judicial marshals, under certain circumstances, to serve child support *capias* orders using a copy of the order;
3. requires the State Marshal Commission to implement policies and procedures to increase state marshal participation in the serving of *capias* orders;
4. establishes a task force to study technology and other initiatives to maximize child support collection;
5. appropriates \$7.4 million for FY 15, to DSS to purchase technology systems to improve BCSE's efforts to collect child support; and
6. appropriates \$1 million for FY 15, to the Judicial Branch to increase Support Enforcement Services' staffing.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 40 Nay 0 (04/02/2014)