

HOUSE BILL NO. 2183

97TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BUTLER.

6455H.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 454, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a child support arrearage reduction program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 454, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 454.1760, to read as follows:

454.1760. 1. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the department of social services shall establish a pilot program which would allow eligible non-custodial parents to reduce their amount of state debt, as defined in section 454.465, owed based on participation in the program.

2. The goals of the pilot program shall include, but not be limited to:

(1) Empowering non-custodial parents with the necessary resources to achieve gainful employment;

(2) Encourage non-custodial parents to be engaged with their children; and

(3) Encourage non-custodial parents to take financial responsibility for their children's well-being.

3. The pilot program shall allow for a reduction in the amount of state debt owed by a non-custodial parent based upon the number of hours of participation in the program to be determined by the department. In no event shall the amount of state debt owed be reduced by more than two thousand dollars.

4. The pilot program shall not:

(1) Forgive the entire amount of state debt owed;

(2) Change the non-custodial parent's monthly child support obligations;

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 **(3) Compromise any arrears owed to the custodial parent; or**

19 **(4) Compromise any spousal support arrears.**

20 **5. The department shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement the**
21 **provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section**
22 **536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective**
23 **only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if**
24 **applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable, and if any of**
25 **the powers vested with the general assembly under chapter 536 to review, to delay the**
26 **effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,**
27 **then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,**
28 **2014, shall be invalid and void.**

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