

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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Short Title: Child Support/Fed. Req.

(Public)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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February 24, 1997

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE GENERAL STATUTES PERTAINING TO CHILD  
3 SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT IN ORDER TO ENHANCE CHILD SUPPORT  
4 ENFORCEMENT AND PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT IN CONFORMANCE  
5 WITH FEDERAL WELFARE REFORM REQUIREMENTS.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7  
8 **PART 1. STATE DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.**

9 Section 1. Effective October 1, 1997, Article 1 of Chapter 110 of the General  
10 Statutes is amended by adding the following new section to read:

11 "**§ 110-129.2. State Directory of New Hires established; employers required to**  
12 **report; civil penalties for noncompliance; definitions.**

13 (a) Directory Established. – There is established the State Directory of New Hires.  
14 The Directory shall be developed and maintained by the Department. The Directory shall  
15 be a central repository for employment information to assist in the location of persons  
16 owing child support, and in the establishment and enforcement of child support orders.

1       **(b) Employer Reporting.** – Every employer in this State shall report to the  
2 Directory the hiring of every employee for whom a federal W-4 form is required to be  
3 completed by the employee at the time of hiring. The employer shall report the  
4 information required under this section not later than 20 days from the date of hire, or, in  
5 the case of an employer who transmits new hire reports magnetically or electronically by  
6 two monthly transmissions, not less than 12 nor more than 16 days apart. The  
7 Department shall notify employers of the information they must report under this section  
8 and of the penalties for not reporting the required information. The required forms must  
9 be provided by the Department to employers.

10       **(c) Report Contents.** – Each report required by this section shall contain the name,  
11 address, and social security number of the employee, and the name and address of the  
12 employer and the employer's identifying number assigned under section 6109 of the  
13 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the employer's State employer identification number.  
14 Reports shall be made on the W-4 form or, at the option of the employer, an equivalent  
15 form, and may be transmitted magnetically, electronically, or by first-class mail.

16       **(d) Penalties for Failure to Report.** – Upon a finding that an employer has failed to  
17 comply with the reporting requirements of this section, the district court shall impose a  
18 civil penalty in an amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). If the court finds  
19 that an employer's failure to comply with the reporting requirements is the result of a  
20 conspiracy between the employer and the employee to not supply the required report or to  
21 supply a false or incomplete report, then the court shall impose upon the employer a civil  
22 penalty in an amount not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500.00). Penalties collected  
23 under this subsection shall be deposited to the General Fund.

24       **(e) Entry of Report Data Into Directory.** – Within five business days of receipt of  
25 the report from the employer, the Department shall enter the information from the report  
26 into the Directory.

27       **(f) Notice to Employer to Withhold.** – Within two business days of the date the  
28 information was entered into the Directory, the Department or its designated  
29 representative as defined under G.S. 110-129(5) shall transmit notice to the employer of  
30 the newly hired employee directing the employer to withhold from the income of the  
31 employee an amount equal to the monthly or other periodic child support obligation,  
32 including any past-due support obligation of the employee and subject to the limitations  
33 of G.S. 110-136.6, unless the employee's income is not subject to withholding.

34       **(g) Other Uses of Directory Information.** – The Employment Security  
35 Commission may access information entered into the Directory from employer reports  
36 for the purpose of administering employment security programs. The North Carolina  
37 Industrial Commission may access information entered into the Directory from employer  
38 reports for the purpose of administering workers' compensation programs.

39       **(h) Department May Contract for Services.** – The Department may contract with  
40 other State or private entities to perform the services necessary to implement this section.

41       **(i) Information Confidential.** – Except as otherwise provided in this section,  
42 information contained in the Directory is confidential and may be used only by the State  
43 Child Support Enforcement Program.

1 (j) Definitions. – As used in this section, unless the context clearly requires  
2 otherwise, the term:

3 (1) 'Business day' means a day on which State offices are open for  
4 business.

5 (2) 'Department' means the Department of Human Resources.

6 (3) 'Employee' means an individual who is an employee within the meaning  
7 of Chapter 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. The term  
8 'employee' does not include an employee of a federal or State agency  
9 performing intelligence or counterintelligence functions, if the head of  
10 the agency has determined that reporting information as required under  
11 this section could endanger the safety of the employee or compromise  
12 an ongoing investigation or intelligence mission.

13 (4) 'Employer' has the meaning given the term in section 3401(d) of the  
14 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and includes persons who are  
15 governmental entities and labor organizations. The term 'labor  
16 organization' shall have the meaning given that term in section 2(5) of  
17 the National Labor Relations Act, and includes any entity which is used  
18 by the organization and an employer to carry out requirements described  
19 in section 8(f)(3) of the National Labor Relations Act of an agreement  
20 between the organization and the employer."

21  
22 **PART 2. EXPANDED AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO ENFORCE**  
23 **CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS AND TO ESTABLISH PATERNITY.**

24 Section 2. Chapter 110 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
25 following new section to read:

26 **"§ 110-129.1. Additional powers and duties of the Department.**

27 (a) In addition to other powers and duties conferred upon the Department of  
28 Human Resources, Child Support Enforcement Program, by this Chapter or other State  
29 law, the Department shall have the following powers and duties:

30 (1) Upon authorization of the Secretary, to issue a subpoena for the  
31 production of books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, agreements,  
32 or other information, documents, or records relevant to a child support  
33 establishment or enforcement proceeding or paternity establishment  
34 proceeding. The subpoena shall be signed by the Secretary and shall  
35 state the name of the person or entity required to produce the  
36 information authorized under this section, and a description of the  
37 information compelled to be produced. The subpoena may be served in  
38 the manner provided for service of subpoenas under the North Carolina  
39 Rules of Civil Procedure. The form of subpoena shall generally follow  
40 the practice in the General Court of Justice in North Carolina. Return of  
41 the subpoena shall be to the person who issued the subpoena. Upon the  
42 refusal of any person to comply with the subpoena, it shall be the duty  
43 of any judge of the district court, upon application by the person who

1           issued the subpoena, to order the person subpoenaed to show cause why  
2           he should not comply with the requirements, if in the discretion of the  
3           judge the requirements are reasonable and proper. Refusal to comply  
4           with the subpoena or with the order shall be dealt with as for contempt  
5           of court and as otherwise provided by law. Information obtained as a  
6           result of a subpoena issued pursuant to this subdivision is confidential  
7           and may be used only by the Child Support Enforcement Program in  
8           conjunction with a child support establishment or enforcement  
9           proceeding or paternity establishment proceeding.

10           (2) For the purposes of locating persons, establishing paternity, or enforcing  
11           child support orders, the Program shall have access to any information  
12           or data storage and retrieval system maintained and used by the  
13           Department of Transportation for drivers license issuance or motor  
14           vehicle registration, or by a law enforcement agency in this State for law  
15           enforcement purposes, as permitted pursuant to G.S. 132-1.4, except  
16           that the Program shall have access to information available to the law  
17           enforcement agency pertaining to drivers licenses and motor vehicle  
18           registrations issued in other states.

19           (3) Establish and implement procedures under which in IV-D cases either  
20           parent or, in the case of an assignment of support, the State may request  
21           that a child support order enforced under this Chapter be reviewed and,  
22           if appropriate, adjusted in accordance with the most recently adopted  
23           uniform statewide child support guidelines prescribed by the  
24           Conference of Chief District Court Judges.

25           (4) Develop procedures for entering into agreements with financial  
26           institutions to develop and operate a data match system as provided  
27           under G.S. 110-139.2.

28           (5) Develop procedures for ensuring that when a noncustodial parent  
29           providing health care coverage pursuant to a court order changes  
30           employers and is eligible for health care coverage from the new  
31           employer, the new employer, upon receipt of notice of the order from  
32           the Department, enrolls the child in the employer's health care plan.

33           (6) Develop and implement an administrative process for paternity  
34           establishment in accordance with G.S. 110-132.2.

35           (7) Establish and implement administrative procedures to change the child  
36           support payee to ensure that child support payments are made to the  
37           appropriate caretaker when custody of the child has changed, in  
38           accordance with G.S. 50-13.4(d).

39           (8) Establish and implement expedited procedures to take the following  
40           actions relating to the establishment of paternity or to establishment of  
41           support orders, without obtaining an order from a judicial tribunal:

42           a. Subpoena the parties to undergo genetic testing as provided  
43           under G.S. 110-132.2;

- 1           **b.**     Implement income withholding in accordance with this Chapter;  
2           **c.**     For the purpose of securing overdue support, increase the amount  
3           of monthly support payments by implementation of income  
4           withholding procedures established under G.S. 110-136.4, or by  
5           notice and opportunity to contest to an obligor who is not subject  
6           to income withholding. Increases under this subdivision are  
7           subject to the limitations of G.S. 110-136.6;  
8           **d.**     For purposes of exerting and retaining jurisdiction in IV-D cases,  
9           transfer cases between jurisdictions in this State without the  
10           necessity for additional filing by the petitioner or service of  
11           process upon the respondent.

12       **(b)**    As used in this section, the term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Human  
13       Resources, the Secretary's designee, or a designated representative as defined under G.S.  
14       110-129(5)."

15           Section 2.1. (a) G.S. 50-13.4(d) reads as rewritten:

16       **"(d)**    Payments~~In non-IV-D cases, payments~~ for the support of a minor child shall  
17       be ordered to be paid to the person having custody of the child or any other proper  
18       person, agency, organization or institution, or to the court, for the benefit of such~~the~~  
19       child. In IV-D cases, payments for the support of a minor child shall be ordered to be  
20       paid to the court or other proper State agency for the benefit of the child."

21           (b) This section applies to orders entered or modified on and after October 1,  
22       1997.

23           Section 2.2. G.S. 50-13.4 is amended by adding the following new subsection  
24       to read:

25       **"(e1)** In IV-D cases, the order for child support shall provide that the clerk shall  
26       transfer the case to another jurisdiction in this State if the IV-D agency requests the  
27       transfer on the basis that the obligor, the custodian of the child, and the child do not  
28       reside in the jurisdiction in which the order was issued. The IV-D agency shall provide  
29       notice of the transfer to the obligor by delivery of written notice in accordance with the  
30       notice requirements of Chapter 1A-1, Rule 5(b) of the Rules of Civil Procedure. The  
31       clerk shall transfer the case to the jurisdiction requested by the IV-D agency, which shall  
32       be a jurisdiction in which the obligor, the custodian of the child, or the child resides.  
33       Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent a party from contesting the  
34       transfer."

## 35       **PART 2A. NOTICE/DUE PROCESS REQUIREMENTS.**

36           Section 2.3. Chapter 110 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
37       following new section to read:

### 38       **"§ 110-131.1. Notice; due process requirements met.**

39           In any child support enforcement proceeding the trial court may deem State due  
40       process requirements for notice and service of process to be met with respect to the  
41       nonmoving party, upon delivery of written notice in accordance with the notice  
42       requirements of this section.

1 requirements of Chapter 1A-1, Rule 5(b) of the Rules of Civil Procedure with respect to  
2 all pleadings subsequent to the original complaint."

3  
4 **PART 3. AUTHORIZE JUDGES TO IMPOSE WORK REQUIREMENTS ON**  
5 **OBLIGORS WHO ARE IN ARREARS IN CHILD SUPPORT, AND TO**  
6 **REQUIRE PARENTS TO PROVIDE MEDICAL SUPPORT.**

7 Section 3. G.S. 110-136.3 is amended by adding the following new subsection  
8 to read:

9 "(a1) Payment Plan/Work Requirement for Past-Due Support. In any IV-D case in  
10 which an obligor owes past-due support and income withholding has been ordered but  
11 cannot be implemented against the obligor, the court may order the obligor to pay the  
12 support in accordance with a payment plan approved by the court and, if the obligor is  
13 subject to the payment plan and is not incapacitated, the court may order the obligor to  
14 participate in such work activities, as defined under 42 U.S.C. § 607, as the court deems  
15 appropriate."

16 Section 3.1. G.S. 50-13.11 reads as rewritten:

17 "**§ 50-13.11. Orders and agreements regarding medical support and health**  
18 **insurance coverage for minor children.**

19 (a) The court may order a parent of a minor child or other responsible party to  
20 provide medical support for the child, or the parties may enter into a written agreement  
21 regarding medical support for the child. ~~An order or agreement for medical support may~~  
22 ~~require one or both parties to maintain health insurance, dental insurance, or both, or to~~  
23 ~~pay the medical, hospital, or dental expenses.~~ An order or agreement for medical support  
24 for the child may require one or both parties to pay the medical, hospital, dental, or other  
25 health care related expenses.

26 (a1) The court shall order the parent of a minor child or other responsible party to  
27 maintain health insurance for the benefit of the child when health insurance is available at  
28 a reasonable cost. As used in this subsection, health insurance is considered reasonable  
29 in cost if it is employment related or other group health insurance, regardless of service  
30 delivery mechanism. The court may require one or both parties to maintain dental  
31 insurance.

32 (b) The party ordered or under agreement to provide ~~medical-health~~ insurance  
33 shall provide written notice of any change in the applicable insurance coverage to the  
34 other party.

35 (c) The employer or insurer of the party required to provide ~~medical, health,~~  
36 hospital, and dental insurance shall release to the other party, upon written request, any  
37 information on a minor child's insurance coverage that the employer or insurer may  
38 release to the party required to provide ~~medical, health,~~ hospital, and dental insurance.

39 (d) When a court order or agreement for ~~medical-health~~ insurance is in effect, the  
40 signature of either party shall be valid authorization to the insurer to process an insurance  
41 claim on behalf of a minor child.

42 (e) If the party who is required to provide ~~medical-health~~ insurance fails to  
43 maintain the insurance coverage for the minor child, the party shall be liable for any

1 ~~medical, health,~~ hospital, or dental expenses incurred from the date of the court order or  
2 agreement that would have been covered by insurance if it had been in force.

3 (f) When a noncustodial parent ordered to provide health insurance changes  
4 employment and health insurance coverage is available through the new employer, the  
5 obligee shall notify the new employer of the noncustodial parent's obligation to provide  
6 health insurance for the child. Upon receipt of notice from the obligee, the new employer  
7 shall enroll the child in the employer's health insurance plan."

8 Section 3.2. G.S. 108A-69(b) reads as rewritten:

9 "(b) If a parent is required by a court or administrative order to provide health  
10 benefit plan coverage for a child, and the parent is eligible for family health benefit plan  
11 coverage through an employer doing business in this State, the employer:

12 (1) Must allow the parent to enroll, under family coverage, the child if the  
13 child would be otherwise eligible for coverage without regard to any  
14 enrollment season restrictions.

15 (2) Must enroll the child under family coverage upon application of the  
16 child's other parent or upon receipt of notice from the Department of  
17 Human Resources in connection with its administration of the Medical  
18 Assistance or Child Support Enforcement Program if the parent is  
19 enrolled but fails to make application to obtain coverage for the child.

20 (3) May not disenroll or eliminate coverage of the child unless:

21 a. The employer is provided satisfactory written evidence that:

- 22 1. The court or administrative order is no longer in effect; or  
23 2. The child is or will be enrolled in comparable health  
24 benefit plan coverage that will take effect not later than  
25 the effective date of disenrollment; or

26 b. The employer has eliminated family health benefit plan coverage  
27 for all of its employees.

28 (4) Must withhold from the employee's compensation the employee's share,  
29 if any, of premiums for health benefit plan coverage, not to exceed the  
30 maximum amount permitted to be withheld under section 303(b) of the  
31 federal Consumer Credit Protection Act, as amended; and must pay this  
32 amount to the health insurer; subject to regulations, if any, adopted by  
33 the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services."  
34

### 35 **PART 3A. CONFORM STATE TAX INTERCEPT LAW TO FEDERAL** 36 **REQUIREMENTS.**

37 Section 3.3. G.S. 105A-2(1)d. reads as rewritten:

38 "d. The North Carolina Department of Human Resources when in  
39 the performance of its duties, under the Child Support  
40 Enforcement Program as enabled by Chapter 110, Article 9 and  
41 Title IV, Part D of the Social Security Act to obtain  
42 indemnification for past paid public assistance or to collect child  
43 support ~~arrears~~—owed to an individual receiving program

1 services and any county operating the program at the local level,  
2 when and only to the extent that the county is engaged in the  
3 performance of those same duties;"

4  
5 **PART 4. REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON**  
6 **CERTAIN DOCUMENTS.**

7 Section 4. G.S. 20-7(b1) reads as rewritten:

8 "(b1) Application. – To obtain a drivers license from the Division, a person must  
9 complete an application form provided by the Division, present at least two forms of  
10 identification approved by the Commissioner, be a resident of this State, and demonstrate  
11 his or her physical and mental ability to drive safely a motor vehicle included in the class  
12 of license for which the person has applied. The Division may copy the identification  
13 presented or hold it for a brief period of time to verify its authenticity. To obtain an  
14 endorsement, a person must demonstrate his or her physical and mental ability to drive  
15 safely the type of motor vehicle for which the endorsement is required.

16 The application form must request all of the following information:

- 17 (1) The applicant's full name.  
18 (2) The applicant's mailing address and residence address.  
19 (3) A physical description of the applicant, including the applicant's sex,  
20 height, eye color, and hair color.  
21 (4) The applicant's date of birth.  
22 (5) The applicant's social security number. The Division shall not issue a  
23 license to an applicant who fails to provide the applicant's social  
24 security number. The applicant's social security number shall not be  
25 printed on the license and may be released only to the Department of  
26 Human Resources, Child Support Enforcement Program, upon its  
27 request and for the purpose of establishing paternity or child support, or  
28 enforcing a child support order.  
29 (6) The applicant's signature.

30 The application form must also contain the disclosures concerning the request for an  
31 applicant's social security number required by section 7 of the federal Privacy Act of  
32 1974, Pub. L. No. 93-579. In accordance with 42 U.S.C. ~~405(e)(2)(C)(v), 405 and 42~~  
33 U.S.C. 666, and amendments thereto, the Division may disclose a social security number  
34 obtained under this subsection only for the purpose of administering the drivers license  
35 laws or to assist the State Child Support Enforcement Program in establishing paternity  
36 or establishing or enforcing child support and may not disclose the social security number  
37 for any other purpose. The social security number of an applicant for a license or of a  
38 licensed driver is therefore not a public record. A violation of the disclosure restrictions is  
39 punishable as provided in 42 U.S.C. ~~405(e)(2)(C)(vii), 408, and amendments thereto.~~"

40 Section 4.1. G.S. 49-7 reads as rewritten:

41 "**§ 49-7. Issues and orders.**

42 The court before which the matter may be brought shall determine whether or not the  
43 defendant is a parent of the child on whose behalf the proceeding is instituted. After this



1 matter has been determined in the affirmative, the court shall proceed to determine the  
2 issue as to whether or not the defendant has neglected or refused to provide adequate  
3 support and maintain the child who is the subject of the proceeding. After this matter  
4 shall have been determined in the affirmative, the court shall fix by order, subject to  
5 modification or increase from time to time, a specific sum of money necessary for the  
6 support and maintenance of the child, subject to the limitations of G.S. 50-13.10. The  
7 amount of child support shall be determined as provided in G.S. 50-13.4(c). The order  
8 fixing the sum shall require the defendant to pay it either as a lump sum or in periodic  
9 payments as the circumstances of the case may appear to the court to require. The social  
10 security number, if known, of the minor child's parents shall be placed in the record of  
11 the proceeding. Compliance by the defendant with any or all of the further provisions of  
12 this Article or the order or orders of the court requiring additional acts to be performed by  
13 the defendant shall not be construed to relieve the defendant of his or her responsibility to  
14 pay the sum fixed or any modification or increase thereof.

15 The court before whom the matter may be brought, on motion of the State or the  
16 defendant, shall order that the alleged-parent defendant, the known natural parent, and the  
17 child submit to any blood tests and comparisons which have been developed and adapted  
18 for purposes of establishing or disproving parentage and which are reasonably accessible  
19 to the alleged-parent defendant, the known natural parent, and the child. The results of  
20 those blood tests and comparisons, including the statistical likelihood of the alleged  
21 parent's parentage, if available, shall be admitted in evidence when offered by a duly  
22 qualified, licensed practicing physician, duly qualified immunologist, duly qualified  
23 geneticist or other duly qualified person. The evidentiary effect of those blood tests and  
24 comparisons and the manner in which the expenses therefor are to be taxed as costs shall  
25 be as prescribed in G.S. 8-50.1. In addition, if a jury tries the issue of parentage, they  
26 shall be instructed as set out in G.S. 8-50.1. From a finding on the issue of parentage  
27 against the alleged-parent defendant, the alleged-parent defendant has the same right of  
28 appeal as though he or she had been found guilty of the crime of willful failure to support  
29 an illegitimate child."

30 Section 4.2. G.S. 49-14(a) reads as rewritten:

31 "(a) The paternity of a child born out of wedlock may be established by civil action  
32 at any time prior to such child's eighteenth birthday. A certified copy of a certificate of  
33 birth of the child shall be attached to the complaint. ~~Such~~ The establishment of paternity  
34 shall not have the effect of legitimation. The social security numbers, if known, of the  
35 minor child's parents shall be placed in the record of the proceeding."

36 Section 4.3. G.S. 50-8 reads as rewritten:

37 "**§ 50-8. Contents of complaint; verification; venue and service in action by**  
38 **nonresident; certain divorces validated.**

39 In all actions for divorce the complaint shall be verified in accordance with the  
40 provisions of Rule 11 of the Rules of Civil Procedure and G.S. 1-148. The plaintiff shall  
41 set forth in his or her complaint that the complainant or defendant has been a resident of  
42 the State of North Carolina for at least six months next preceding the filing of the  
43 complaint, and that the facts set forth therein as grounds for divorce, except in actions for

1 divorce from bed and board, have existed to his or her knowledge for at least six months  
2 prior to the filing of the complaint: Provided, however, that if the cause for divorce is  
3 one-year separation, then it shall not be necessary to allege in the complaint that the  
4 grounds for divorce have existed for at least six months prior to the filing of the  
5 complaint; it being the purpose of this proviso to permit a divorce after such separation of  
6 one year without awaiting an additional six months for filing the complaint: Provided,  
7 further, that if the complainant is a nonresident of the State action shall be brought in the  
8 county of the defendant's residence, and summons served upon the defendant personally  
9 or service of summons accepted by the defendant personally in the manner provided in  
10 G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4(j)(1). Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any suit or  
11 action for divorce heretofore instituted by a nonresident of this State in which the  
12 defendant was personally served with summons or in which the defendant personally  
13 accepted service of the summons and the case was tried and final judgment entered in a  
14 court of this State in a county other than the county of the defendant's residence, is hereby  
15 validated and declared to be legal and proper, the same as if the suit or action for divorce  
16 had been brought in the county of the defendant's residence.

17 In all divorce actions the complaint shall set forth the name and age of any minor  
18 child or children of the marriage, and in the event there are no ~~such~~ minor children of the  
19 marriage, the complaint shall so state. In addition, when there are minor children of the  
20 marriage, the complaint shall state the social security number of the plaintiff and, if  
21 known, the social security number of the defendant.

22 In all prior suits and actions for divorce heretofore instituted and tried in the courts of  
23 this State where the averments of fact required to be contained in the affidavit heretofore  
24 required by this section are or have been alleged and set forth in the complaint in said  
25 suits or actions and said complaints have been duly verified as required by Rule 11 of the  
26 Rules of Civil Procedure, said allegations so contained in said complaints shall be  
27 deemed to be, and are hereby made, a substantial compliance as to the allegations  
28 heretofore required by this section to be set forth in any affidavit; and all such suits or  
29 actions for divorce, as well as the judgments or decrees issued and entered as a result  
30 thereof, are hereby validated and declared to be legal and proper judgments and decrees  
31 of divorce.

32 In all suits and actions for divorce heretofore instituted and tried in this State on and  
33 subsequent to the 5th day of April, 1951, wherein the statements, averments, or  
34 allegations in the verification to the complaint in said suits or actions are not in  
35 accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 of the Rules of Civil Procedure and G.S. 1-148  
36 or the requirements of this section as to verification of complaint or the allegations,  
37 statements or averments in the verification contain the language that the facts set forth in  
38 the complaint are true 'to the best of affiant's knowledge and belief' instead of the  
39 language 'that the same is true to his (or her) own knowledge' or similar variation in  
40 language, said allegations, statements and averments in said verifications as contained in  
41 or attached to said complaint shall be deemed to be, and are hereby made, a substantial  
42 compliance as to the allegations, averments or statements required by this section to be  
43 set forth in any such verifications; and all such suits or actions for divorce, as well as the

1 judgments or decrees issued and entered as a result thereof, are hereby validated and  
2 declared to be legal and proper judgments and decrees of divorce. The judgment of  
3 divorce shall include, where there are minor children of the parties, the social security  
4 numbers of the parties."

5 Section 4.4. G.S. 50-13.4 is amended by adding the following new subsections  
6 to read:

7 "(g) An individual who brings an action or motion in the cause for the support of a  
8 minor child, and the individual who defends the action, shall provide to the clerk of the  
9 court in which the action is brought or the order is issued, the individual's social security  
10 number. The child support order shall contain the social security number of the parties as  
11 evidenced in the support proceeding.

12 (h) Child support orders initially entered or modified on and after October 1, 1998,  
13 shall contain the name of each of the parties, the date of birth of each party, the social  
14 security number of each party, and the court docket number. The Administrative Office  
15 of the Courts shall transmit to the Department of Human Resources, Child Support  
16 Enforcement Program, on a timely basis, the information required to be included on  
17 orders under this subsection."

18 Section 4.5. G.S. 51-8 reads as rewritten:

19 "**§ 51-8. License issued by register of deeds.**

20 Every register of deeds shall, upon proper application, issue a license for the marriage  
21 of any two persons if it appears that such persons are authorized to be married in  
22 accordance with the laws of this State. In making a determination as to whether or not the  
23 parties are authorized to be married under the laws of this State, the register of deeds may  
24 require the applicants for the license to marry to present certified copies of birth  
25 certificates or birth registration cards provided for in G.S. 130-73, or such other evidence  
26 as the register of deeds deems necessary to such determination. The register of deeds may  
27 administer an oath to any person presenting evidence relating to whether or not parties  
28 applying for a marriage license are eligible to be married pursuant to the laws of this  
29 State. Each applicant for a marriage license shall provide on the application the  
30 applicant's social security number. The register of deeds shall not issue a marriage  
31 license unless all of the requirements of this section have been met."

32 Section 4.6. Chapter 93B of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
33 following new section to read:

34 "**§ 93B-14. Information on applicants for licensure.**

35 Every occupational licensing board shall require applicants for licensure to provide to  
36 the Board the applicant's social security number. This information shall be treated as  
37 confidential and may be released only to the State Child Support Enforcement Program  
38 of the Department of Human Resources upon its request and for the purpose of enforcing  
39 a child support order."

40  
41 **PART 4A. PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT PROCEEDINGS.**

42 Section 4.7. G.S. 110-132(a) reads as rewritten:

43 "**§ 110-132. Acknowledgment of paternity and agreement to support.**

1 (a) In lieu of or in conclusion of any legal proceeding instituted to establish  
2 paternity, the written acknowledgment of paternity executed by the putative father of the  
3 dependent child when accompanied by a written affirmation of paternity executed and  
4 sworn to by the mother of the dependent child shall constitute an admission of paternity,  
5 subject to the right of either signatory to rescind within the earlier of:

6 (1) 60 days of the date the document is executed, or

7 (2) The date of entry of an order establishing paternity or an order for the  
8 payment of child support.

9 ~~and filed with and approved by a judge of the district court in the county where the~~  
10 ~~mother of the child resides or is found, or in the county where the putative father resides~~  
11 ~~or is found, or in the county where the child resides or is found shall have the same force~~  
12 ~~and effect as a judgment of that court; and a~~

13 In order to rescind, a challenger must request the district court to order the rescission  
14 and to include in the order specific findings of fact that the request for rescission was filed  
15 with the clerk of court within 60 days of the signing of the document. The court must  
16 also find that all parties, including the child support enforcement agency, if appropriate,  
17 have been served in accordance with Rule 4 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil  
18 Procedure. In the event the court orders rescission and the putative father is thereafter  
19 found not to be the father of the child, then the clerk of court shall send a copy of the  
20 order of rescission to the State Registrar of Vital Statistics. Upon receipt of an order of  
21 rescission, the State Registrar shall remove the putative father's name from the birth  
22 certificate. In the event that the putative father defaults or fails to present or prosecute  
23 the issue of paternity, the trial court shall find the putative father to be the biological  
24 father as a matter of law.

25 After 60 days have elapsed, execution of the document may be challenged in court  
26 only upon the basis of fraud, duress, mistake, or excusable neglect. The burden of proof  
27 shall be on the challenging party, and the legal responsibilities, including child support  
28 obligations, of any signatory arising from the executed documents may not be suspended  
29 during the challenge except for good cause shown.

30 A written agreement to support ~~said~~ the child by periodic payments, which may  
31 include provision for reimbursement for medical expenses incident to the pregnancy and  
32 the birth of the child, accrued maintenance and reasonable expense of prosecution of the  
33 paternity action, when acknowledged as provided herein, filed with, and approved by a  
34 judge of the district court at any time, shall have the same force and effect as an order of  
35 support entered by that court, and shall be enforceable and subject to modification in the  
36 same manner as is provided by law for orders of the court in such cases. ~~Such~~ The written  
37 affirmation shall contain the social security number of the person executing the  
38 affirmation, and the written acknowledgment shall contain the social security number of  
39 the person executing the acknowledgment. Voluntary agreements to support shall  
40 contain the social security number of each of the parties to the agreement. The written  
41 affirmations, acknowledgments and agreements to support shall be sworn to before a  
42 certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or corresponding person of the state,  
43 territory, or foreign country where the affirmation, acknowledgment, or agreement is

1 made, and shall be binding on the person executing the same whether ~~he~~ the person is an  
2 adult or a minor. The child support enforcement agency shall ensure that the mother and  
3 putative father are given oral and written notice of the legal consequences and  
4 responsibilities arising from the signing of an acknowledgement of paternity, and of any  
5 alternatives to the execution of an acknowledgment or affirmation of paternity. ~~Such~~ The  
6 mother shall not be excused from making ~~such~~ the affirmation on the grounds that it may  
7 tend to disgrace or incriminate her; nor shall she thereafter be prosecuted for any criminal  
8 act involved in the conception of the child as to whose paternity she makes affirmation."

9 Section 4.8. G.S. 110-133 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 110-133. Agreements of support.**

11 In lieu of or in conclusion of any legal proceeding instituted to obtain support from a  
12 responsible parent for a dependent child born of the marriage, a written agreement to  
13 support the child by periodic payments executed by the responsible parent when  
14 acknowledged before a certifying officer or notary public or the equivalent or  
15 corresponding person of the state, territory, or foreign country where the  
16 acknowledgment is made and filed with and approved by a judge of the district court in  
17 the county where the custodial parent of the child resides or is found, or in the county  
18 where the noncustodial parent resides or is found, or in the county where the child resides  
19 or is found shall have the same force and effect, retroactively and prospectively, in  
20 accordance with the terms of the agreement, as an order of support entered by the court,  
21 and shall be enforceable and subject to modification in the same manner as is provided by  
22 law for orders of the court in such cases. A responsible parent executing a written  
23 agreement under this section shall provide on the agreement the responsible parent's  
24 social security number."

25 Section 4.9. G.S. 49-12.1(c) reads as rewritten:

26 "(c) The parties may ~~waive a jury trial and~~ enter a consent order with the approval  
27 of the clerk of superior court. The order entered by the clerk shall find the facts and  
28 declare the proper person the father of the child and may change the surname of the  
29 child."

30 Section 4.10. G.S. 49-14 is amended by adding the following new subsections  
31 to read:

32 "(f) When a determination of paternity is pending in a IV-D case, the court shall  
33 enter a temporary order for child support upon motion and showing of clear, cogent, and  
34 convincing evidence of paternity. For purposes of this subsection, the results of blood or  
35 genetic tests shall constitute clear, cogent, and convincing evidence of paternity if the  
36 tests show that the probability of the alleged parent's parentage is ninety-seven percent  
37 (97%) or higher. If paternity is not thereafter established, then the putative father shall be  
38 reimbursed the full amount of temporary support paid under the order.

39 "(g) Invoices for services rendered for pregnancy, childbirth, and blood or genetic  
40 testing are admissible as evidence without requiring third party foundation testimony and  
41 shall constitute prima facie evidence of the amounts incurred for the services or for  
42 testing on behalf of the child."

1 Section 4.11. Chapter 110 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
2 following new section to read:

3 **"§ 110-132.2. Expedited procedures to establish paternity in IV-D cases.**

4 (a) In a IV-D court action, a local child support enforcement office may, without  
5 obtaining a court order, subpoena a minor child, the minor child's mother, and the  
6 putative father of the minor child (including the mother's husband, if different from the  
7 putative father) to appear for the purpose of undergoing blood or genetic testing to  
8 establish paternity. A subpoena issued pursuant to this section must be served in  
9 accordance with Rule 4 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. Refusal to  
10 comply with a subpoena may be dealt with as for contempt of court, and as otherwise  
11 provided under law. A party may contest the results of the genetic or blood test. If the  
12 results are contested, the agency shall, upon request and advance payment by the  
13 contestant, obtain additional testing.

14 (b) A person subpoenaed to submit to testing pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
15 section may contest the subpoena. To contest the subpoena, a person must, within 15  
16 days of receipt of the subpoena, request a hearing in the county where the local child  
17 support enforcement office that issued the subpoena is located. The hearing shall be  
18 before the district court and notice of the hearing must be served by the petitioner on all  
19 parties to the proceeding. Service shall be in accordance with Rule 4 of the North  
20 Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. The hearing shall be held and a determination made  
21 within 30 days of the petitioner's request for hearing as to whether the petitioner must  
22 comply with the subpoena to undergo testing. If the trial court determines that the  
23 petitioner must comply with the subpoena, the determination shall not prejudice any  
24 defenses the petitioner may present at any future paternity litigation."

25 Section 4.12. G.S. 130A-101(f) reads as rewritten:

26 "(f) If the mother was unmarried at all times from date of conception through date  
27 of birth, the name of the father shall not be entered on the certificate unless the child's  
28 mother and father complete an affidavit acknowledging paternity which contains the  
29 following:

- 30 (1) A sworn statement by the mother consenting to the assertion of paternity  
31 by the father and declaring that the father is the child's natural father;
- 32 (2) A sworn statement by the father declaring that he believes he is the  
33 natural father of the child;
- 34 (3) Information explaining in plain language the effect of signing the  
35 affidavit, including a statement of parental rights and responsibilities  
36 and an acknowledgment of the receipt of this information; and
- 37 (4) The social security numbers of both parents.

38 The State Registrar, in consultation with the Child Support Enforcement Section of the  
39 Division of Social Services, shall develop and disseminate a form affidavit for use in  
40 compliance with this section, together with an information sheet that contains all the  
41 information required to be disclosed by subdivision (3) of this subsection.

42 Upon the execution of the affidavit, the declaring father shall be listed as the father on  
43 the birth certificate and shall be presumed to be the natural father of the ~~child~~-child.

1 subject to the declaring father's right to rescind under G.S. 110-132. The executed  
2 affidavit shall be filed with the registrar along with the birth certificate. A certified copy  
3 of the affidavit shall be admissible in any action to establish paternity. ~~The presumption~~  
4 ~~of paternity arising under this section may be rebutted in a legal action only by clear,~~  
5 ~~eogent, and convincing evidence.~~ The surname of the child shall be determined by the  
6 mother, except if the father's name is entered on the certificate, the mother and father  
7 shall agree upon the child's surname. If there is no agreement, the child's surname shall be  
8 the same as that of the mother.

9 The execution and filing of this affidavit with the registrar does not affect rights of  
10 inheritance unless the affidavit is also filed with the clerk of court in accordance with  
11 G.S. 29-19(b)(2)."  
12

13 **PART 5. SUSPENSION/REVOCAION OF LICENSES FOR FAILURE TO**  
14 **COMPLY WITH SUBPOENA ISSUED PURSUANT TO CHILD SUPPORT OR**  
15 **PATERNITY ESTABLISHMENT PROCEEDINGS.**

16 Section 5. The catch line to G.S. 110-142 reads as rewritten:

17 "**§ 110-142. Definitions; suspension and revocation of occupational, professional, or**  
18 **business licenses of obligors who are delinquent in court-ordered child**  
19 **support or subject to outstanding warrants for failure to appear for**  
20 **failure to comply with the terms of a court order for child support.**  
21 **support, or who are not in compliance with subpoenas issued pursuant to**  
22 **child support or paternity establishment proceedings.**"

23 Section 5.1. G.S. 110-142.1 reads as rewritten:

24 "**§ 110-142.1. IV-D notified suspension, revocation, and issuance of occupational,**  
25 **professional, or business licenses of obligors who are delinquent in court-**  
26 **ordered child support or subject to outstanding warrants for failure to**  
27 **appear for failure to comply with the terms of a court order for child**  
28 **support. or who are not in compliance with subpoenas issued pursuant to**  
29 **child support or paternity establishment proceedings.**

30 (a) Effective July 1, 1996, the Department of Human Resources may notify any  
31 board that a person licensed by that board is not in compliance with an order for child  
32 ~~support.~~ support or has been found by the court not to be in compliance with a subpoena  
33 issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment proceedings.

34 (b) ~~The designated representative shall maintain a list of those obligors included in~~  
35 ~~a IV-D case for which a child support order has been rendered by, or registered in, a court~~  
36 ~~of this State, and who are not in compliance with that order.~~ The designated  
37 representative shall submit a certified list with the names, social security numbers, and  
38 last known address of ~~these obligors and the name, address, and telephone number of the~~  
39 ~~person who certified the list to the Department of Human Resources, Division of Social~~  
40 ~~Services, Child Support Enforcement Office.~~ individuals who are not in compliance with  
41 a child support order or with a subpoena issued pursuant to a child support or paternity  
42 establishment proceeding. The designated representative shall verify, under penalty of  
43 perjury, that the ~~obligors~~ individuals listed are subject to an order for the payment of

1 support and ~~that these persons~~ are not in compliance with the ~~order.~~ order, or have been  
2 found by the court to be not in compliance with a subpoena issued pursuant to a child  
3 support or paternity establishment proceeding. The verification shall include the name,  
4 address, and telephone number of the designated representative who certified the list. An  
5 updated certified list shall be submitted to the Department on a monthly basis.

6 The Department of Human Resources, Division of Social Services, Child Support  
7 Enforcement Office, shall consolidate the certified lists received from the designated  
8 representatives and, within 30 calendar days of receipt, shall furnish each board with a  
9 certified list of ~~its obligors,~~ the individuals, as specified in this section.

10 (c) Each board shall coordinate with the Department of Human Resources,  
11 Division of Social Services, Child Support Enforcement Office, in the development of  
12 forms and procedures to implement this section.

13 (d) Promptly after receiving the certified list of ~~obligors~~ individuals from the  
14 Department of Human Resources, each board shall determine whether its applicant or  
15 licensee is an ~~obligor~~ individual on the list. If the applicant or licensee is an ~~obligor~~ on  
16 the list, the board shall immediately send notice as specified in this subsection to the  
17 applicant or licensee of the board's intent to revoke or suspend the licensee's license in 20  
18 days from the date of the notice, or that the board is withholding issuance or renewal of  
19 an applicant's license, until the designated representative certifies that the applicant or  
20 licensee is entitled to be licensed or reinstated. The notice shall be made personally or by  
21 certified mail to the ~~obligor's~~ individual's last known mailing address on file with the  
22 board.

23 (e) Unless notified by the designated representative as provided in subsection (h)  
24 of this section, the board shall revoke or suspend the ~~obligor's~~ individual's license 20 days  
25 from the date of the notice to the ~~obligor~~ individual of the board's intent to revoke or  
26 suspend the license. In the event that a license is revoked or application is denied  
27 pursuant to this section, the board is not required to refund fees paid by the ~~obligor~~  
28 individual.

29 (f) Notices shall be developed by each board in accordance with guidelines  
30 provided by the Department of Human Resources and shall be subject to the approval of  
31 the Department of Human Resources. The notice shall include the address and telephone  
32 number of the designated representative who submitted the name on the certified list, and  
33 shall emphasize the necessity of obtaining a certification of compliance from the  
34 designated representative or the child support enforcement agency as a condition of  
35 issuance, renewal, or reinstatement of the license. The notice shall inform the ~~obligor~~  
36 individual that if a license is revoked or application is denied pursuant to this subsection,  
37 the board is not required to refund fees paid by the ~~obligor~~ individual. The Department  
38 of Human Resources shall also develop a form that the ~~obligor~~ individual shall use to  
39 request a review by the designated representative. A copy of this form shall be included  
40 with every notice sent pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

41 (g) The Department of Human Resources shall establish review procedures  
42 consistent with this section to allow an ~~obligor~~ individual to have the underlying  
43 arrearage and any relevant defenses investigated, to provide an ~~obligor~~ individual



1 information on the process of obtaining a modification of a support order, or, if the  
2 circumstances so warrant, to provide an ~~obligor-individual~~ assistance in the establishment  
3 of a payment schedule on arrears.

4 (h) If the ~~obligor-individual~~ wishes to challenge the submission of the ~~obligor's~~  
5 ~~individual's name on the certified list-list,~~ or if the individual wishes to negotiate a  
6 payment schedule, the ~~obligor-individual~~ shall within 14 days of the date of notice from  
7 the board request a review from the designated representative. The designated  
8 representative shall within six days of the date of the ~~obligor's~~ request for review notify  
9 the appropriate board of the ~~obligor's~~ request for review and direct the board to stay any  
10 action revoking or suspending the ~~obligor's-individual's license-license~~ until further notice  
11 from the designated representative. The designated representative shall review the  
12 ~~obligor's case and inform the obligor-individual in writing of the representative's findings~~  
13 and decision upon completion of the review. ~~The~~ If the findings so warrant, the  
14 designated representative shall immediately send a notice to the appropriate board  
15 certifying the ~~obligor's-individual's~~ compliance with this section if the ~~obligor is found to~~  
16 ~~be no longer in arrears or negotiates an agreement with the designated representative for a~~  
17 ~~payment schedule on arrears or reimbursement section.~~ The agreement shall also  
18 provide for the maintenance of current support obligations and shall be incorporated into  
19 a consent order to be entered by the court. If the ~~obligor-individual~~ fails to meet the  
20 conditions of this subsection, the designated representative shall notify the appropriate  
21 board to immediately revoke or suspend the ~~obligor's-individual's~~ license. Upon receipt  
22 of notice from the designated representative, the board shall immediately revoke or  
23 suspend the ~~obligor's-individual's~~ license.

24 (i) The designated representative shall notify the ~~obligor-individual~~ in writing that  
25 the ~~obligor-individual~~ may, by filing a motion, request any or all of the following:

- 26 (1) Judicial review of the designated representative's decision.
- 27 (2) A judicial determination of compliance.
- 28 (3) A modification of the support order.

29 The notice shall also contain the name and address of the court in which the ~~obligor~~  
30 ~~individual~~ shall file the motion and inform the ~~obligor-individual~~ that the ~~obligor's~~  
31 ~~individual's name shall remain on the certified list unless the judicial review results in a~~  
32 ~~finding by the court that the obligor is no longer in arrears or that the obligor's license~~  
33 ~~should be reinstated under subsection (k) of this~~ the individual is in compliance with this  
34 section. The notice shall also inform the ~~obligor-individual~~ that the ~~obligor-individual~~  
35 must comply with all statutes and rules of court regarding motions and notices of hearing  
36 and that any motion filed under this section is subject to the limitations of G.S. 50-13.10.

37 (j) The motion for judicial review of the designated representative's decision shall  
38 state the grounds for which review is requested and judicial review shall be limited to  
39 those stated grounds. After service of the request for review, the court shall hold an  
40 evidentiary hearing at the next regularly scheduled session for the hearing of child  
41 support matters in civil district court. The request for judicial review shall be served by  
42 the ~~obligor-individual~~ upon the designated representative who submitted the ~~obligor's~~

1 individual's name on the certified list within seven calendar days of the filing of the  
2 motion.

3 (k) If the judicial review results in a finding by the court that the ~~obligor individual~~  
4 is no longer in arrears or that the ~~obligor's individual's~~ license should be reinstated to  
5 allow the ~~obligor individual~~ an opportunity to comply with a payment schedule on arrears  
6 or reimbursement and current support obligations, the designated representative shall  
7 immediately send a notice to the appropriate board certifying the ~~obligor's individual's~~  
8 compliance with this section. ~~In the event of appeal from the judicial review, the license~~  
9 ~~revocation shall not be stayed unless the court specifically provides otherwise.~~ If the  
10 judicial review results in a finding that the individual has complied with or is no longer  
11 subject to the subpoena that was the basis for the revocation, then the designated  
12 representative shall immediately send a notice to the appropriate board certifying the  
13 individual's compliance with this section. In the event of an appeal from judicial review,  
14 the license revocation shall not be stayed unless the court specifically provides otherwise.

15 (l) The Department of Human Resources shall prescribe forms for use by the  
16 designated representative. When the ~~obligor individual~~ is no longer in arrears or  
17 negotiates an agreement with the designated representative for a payment schedule on  
18 arrears or reimbursement ~~as provided in subsection (h) of this section,~~ the designated  
19 representative shall mail to the ~~obligor individual~~ and the appropriate board a notice  
20 certifying that the ~~obligor individual~~ is in compliance. The receipt of certification shall  
21 serve to notify the ~~obligor individual~~ and the board that, for the purposes of this section,  
22 the ~~obligor individual~~ is in compliance with the order for support. When the individual  
23 has complied with or is no longer subject to a subpoena issued pursuant to a child support  
24 or paternity establishment proceeding, the designated representative shall mail to the  
25 individual and the appropriate board a notice certifying that the individual is in  
26 compliance. The receipt of certification shall serve to notify the individual and the board  
27 that the individual is in compliance with this section.

28 (m) The Department of Human Resources may enter into interagency agreements  
29 with the boards necessary to implement this section.

30 (n) The procedures specified in Articles 3 and 3A of Chapter 150B of the General  
31 Statutes, the Administrative Procedure Act, shall not apply to the denial or failure to issue  
32 or renew a license pursuant to this section.

33 (o) Any board receiving an inquiry as to the licensed status of an applicant or  
34 licensee who has had a license denied or revoked under this section shall respond only  
35 that the license was denied or revoked pursuant to this section. Information collected  
36 pursuant to this section shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed except in  
37 accordance with the laws of this State.

38 (p) If any provision of this section or its application to any person or circumstance  
39 is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this  
40 section that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this  
41 end the provisions of this section are severable."

42 Section 5.2. G.S. 110-142.2 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 110-142.2. Suspension, revocation, restriction of license to operate a motor**  
2 **vehicle or hunting, fishing, or trapping licenses; refusal of registration of**  
3 **motor vehicle.**

4 (a) Effective December 1, 1996, notwithstanding any other provision of law, when  
5 an ~~obligor~~individual is at least 90 days in arrears in making child support payments, or  
6 has been found by the court to be not in compliance with a subpoena issued pursuant to  
7 child support or paternity establishment proceedings, the child support enforcement  
8 agency may apply to the court, pursuant to the regular show cause and contempt  
9 provisions of G.S. 50-13.9(d), for an order doing any of the following:

- 10 (1) Revoking the ~~obligor's~~individual's regular or commercial license to  
11 operate a motor vehicle;  
12 (2) Revoking the ~~obligor's~~individual's hunting, fishing, or trapping  
13 licenses;  
14 (3) Directing the Department of Transportation, Division of Motor  
15 Vehicles, to refuse, pursuant to G.S. 20-50.4, to register the ~~obligor's~~  
16 individual's motor vehicle.

17 (b) Upon finding that the ~~obligor~~individual has willfully failed to comply with the  
18 child support order or with a subpoena issued pursuant to child support proceedings, and  
19 that the obligor is at least 90 days in arrears, or upon a finding that an individual subject  
20 to a subpoena issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment proceedings has  
21 failed to comply with the subpoena, the court may enter an order instituting the sanctions  
22 as provided in subsection (a) of this section. The court may stay the effectiveness of the  
23 sanctions upon conditions requiring the obligor to make full payment of the delinquency  
24 over time. Any such stay shall also be conditioned upon the obligor's maintenance of  
25 current child support. The court may stay the effectiveness of the sanctions against an  
26 individual subject to a subpoena issued pursuant to child support or paternity  
27 establishment proceedings upon a finding that the individual has complied with or is no  
28 longer subject to the subpoena. Upon entry of an order pursuant to this section that is not  
29 stayed, the ~~obligor~~individual shall surrender any licenses revoked by the court's order to  
30 the child support enforcement agency and the agency shall forward a report to the  
31 appropriate licensing authority within 30 days of the order.

32 (c) If the ~~obligor's~~individual's regular or commercial drivers license is revoked  
33 under this section and the court, after the hearing, makes a finding that a license to  
34 operate a motor vehicle is necessary to the ~~obligor's~~individual's livelihood, the court may  
35 issue a limited driving privilege, with those terms and conditions applying as the court  
36 shall prescribe. An ~~obligor~~individual whose license has been revoked for reasons not  
37 related to this section and whose license remains revoked at the time of the hearing shall  
38 not be eligible and may not be issued a limited driving privilege. The court may modify  
39 or revoke the limited driving privilege pursuant to G.S. 20-179.3(i).

40 (d) An ~~obligor~~individual may file a request with the child support enforcement  
41 agency for certification that the ~~obligor~~individual is no longer delinquent in child support  
42 payments upon submission of proof satisfactory to the child support enforcement agency  
43 that the ~~obligor~~individual has paid the delinquent amount in full. An individual subject

1 to a subpoena issued pursuant to a child support or paternity establishment proceeding  
2 may file a request with the child support enforcement agency for certification that the  
3 individual has complied with or is no longer subject to the subpoena. The child support  
4 enforcement agency shall provide a form to be used by the ~~obligor-individual~~ for a  
5 request for certification. If the child support enforcement agency finds that the ~~obligor~~  
6 individual has met the requirements for reinstatement under this subsection, then the  
7 child support enforcement agency shall certify that the ~~obligor-individual~~ is no longer  
8 delinquent or that the individual has complied with or is no longer subject to a subpoena  
9 issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment proceedings and shall provide  
10 a copy of the certification to the ~~obligor-individual~~.

11 (e) If licensing privileges are revoked under this section, the ~~obligor-individual~~  
12 may petition the district court for a reinstatement of such privileges. The court may order  
13 the privileges reinstated conditioned upon full payment of the delinquency over ~~time-~~  
14 time, or, as applicable, may order the reinstatement if the court finds that the individual  
15 has complied with or is no longer subject to the subpoena issued pursuant to paternity  
16 establishment proceedings. Any order allowing license reinstatement shall additionally  
17 require the obligor's maintenance of current child support. Upon reinstatement under this  
18 subsection, the child support enforcement agency shall certify that the ~~obligor-individual~~  
19 is no longer ~~delinquent-delinquent, or, as applicable,~~ that the individual has complied  
20 with or is no longer subject to the subpoena issued pursuant to child support or paternity  
21 establishment proceedings and shall provide a copy of the certification to the ~~obligor-~~  
22 individual, as applicable.

23 (f) Upon receipt of certification under subsection (d) or (e) of this section, the  
24 Division of Motor Vehicles shall reinstate the license to operate a motor vehicle in  
25 accordance with G.S. 20-24.1, and remove any restriction of the ~~obligor's-individual's~~  
26 motor vehicle registration.

27 (g) Upon receipt of certification under subsection (d) or (e) of this section, the  
28 licensing board having jurisdiction over the ~~obligor's-individual's~~ hunting, fishing, or  
29 trapping license shall reinstate the license.

30 (h) If the court imposes sanctions under subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this  
31 section and the sanctions are stayed upon conditions as provided in subsection (b) of this  
32 section, the child support enforcement agency may, without any further application to the  
33 court, notify the Division of Motor Vehicles if the ~~obligor-individual~~ violates the terms  
34 and conditions of the stay. The Division shall then take such action as provided in  
35 subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of this section. The Division shall not remove any  
36 restriction of the ~~obligor's-individual's~~ motor vehicle registration, until receipt of  
37 certification pursuant to subsection (d) or (e) of this section.

38 (i) The Department of Human Resources, the Administrative Office of the Courts,  
39 the Division of Motor Vehicles, and the Department of Environment, Health, and Natural  
40 Resources shall work together to develop the forms and procedures necessary for the  
41 implementation of this process."

42 Section 5.3. G.S. 50-13.12 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 50-13.12. Forfeiture of ~~Licensing Privileges for Failure to Pay Child Support.~~**  
2 **licensing privileges for failure to pay child support or for failure to comply**  
3 **with subpoena issued pursuant to child support or paternity establishment**  
4 **proceedings.**

5 (a) As used in this section, the term:

6 (1) 'Licensing board' means a department, division, agency, officer, board,  
7 or other unit of state government that issues hunting, fishing, trapping,  
8 drivers, or occupational licenses or licensing privileges.

9 (2) 'Licensing privilege' means the privilege of an individual to be  
10 authorized to engage in an activity as evidenced by hunting, fishing, or  
11 trapping licenses, regular and commercial drivers licenses, and  
12 occupational, professional, and business licenses.

13 (3) 'Obligee' means the individual or agency to whom a duty of support is  
14 owed or the individual's legal representative.

15 (4) 'Obligor' means the individual who owes a duty to make child support  
16 payments under a court order.

17 (5) 'Occupational license' means a license, certificate, permit, registration,  
18 or any other authorization issued by a licensing board that allows an  
19 obligor to engage in an occupation or profession.

20 (b) Upon a finding by the district court judge that the obligor is willfully  
21 delinquent in child support payments equal to at least one month's child support, or upon  
22 a finding that a person has willfully failed to comply with a subpoena issued pursuant to a  
23 child support or paternity establishment proceeding, and upon findings as to any specific  
24 licensing privileges held by the ~~obligor,~~ obligor or held by the person subject to the  
25 subpoena, the court may revoke some or all of such privileges until the obligor shall have  
26 paid the delinquent amount in full. ~~full, or, as applicable, until the person subject to the~~  
27 subpoena has complied with the subpoena. The court may stay any such revocation  
28 pertaining to the obligor upon conditions requiring the obligor to make full payment of  
29 the delinquency over time. Any such stay shall further be conditioned upon the obligor's  
30 maintenance of current child support. The court may stay the revocation pertaining to the  
31 person subject to the subpoena upon a finding that the person has complied with or is no  
32 longer subject to the subpoena. Upon an order revoking such privileges of an obligor that  
33 does not stay the revocation, the clerk of superior court shall notify the appropriate  
34 licensing board that the obligor is delinquent in child support payments and that the  
35 obligor's licensing privileges are revoked until such time as the licensing board receives  
36 proof of certification by the clerk that the obligor is no longer delinquent in child support  
37 payments. Upon an order revoking such privileges of a person subject to the subpoena  
38 that does not stay the revocation, the clerk of superior court shall notify the appropriate  
39 licensing board that the person has failed to comply with the subpoena issued pursuant to  
40 a child support or paternity establishment proceeding and that the person's licensing  
41 privileges are revoked until such time as the licensing board receives proof of  
42 certification by the clerk that the person is in compliance with or no longer subject to the  
43 subpoena.

1 (c) An obligor may file a request with the clerk of superior court for certification  
2 that the obligor is no longer delinquent in child support payments upon submission of  
3 proof satisfactory to the clerk that the obligor has paid the delinquent amount in full. A  
4 person whose licensing privileges have been revoked under subsection (b) of this section  
5 because of a willful failure to comply with a subpoena may file a request with the clerk of  
6 superior court for certification that the person has met the requirements of or is no longer  
7 subject to the subpoena. The clerk shall provide a form to be used ~~by the obligor~~ for a  
8 request for certification. If the clerk finds that the obligor has met the requirements for  
9 reinstatement under this subsection, then the clerk shall certify that the obligor is no  
10 longer delinquent and shall provide a copy of the certification to the obligor. Upon  
11 request of the obligor, the clerk shall mail a copy of the certification to the appropriate  
12 licensing board. If the clerk finds that the person whose licensing privileges have been  
13 revoked under subsection (b) of this section for failure to comply with a subpoena has  
14 complied with or is no longer subject to the subpoena, then the clerk shall certify that the  
15 person has met the requirements of or is no longer subject to the subpoena and shall  
16 provide a copy of the certification to the person. Upon request of the person, the clerk  
17 shall mail a copy of the certification to the appropriate licensing board.

18 (d) If licensing privileges are revoked under this section, the obligor may petition  
19 the district court for a reinstatement of such privileges. The court may order the  
20 privileges reinstated conditioned upon full payment of the delinquency over time. Any  
21 order allowing license reinstatement shall additionally require the obligor's maintenance  
22 of current child support. If the licensing privileges of a person other than the obligor are  
23 revoked under this section for failure to comply with a subpoena, the person may petition  
24 the district court for reinstatement of the privileges. The court may order the privileges  
25 reinstated if the person has complied with or is no longer subject to the subpoena that was  
26 the basis for revocation. Upon reinstatement under this subsection, the clerk of superior  
27 court shall certify that the obligor is no longer delinquent and provide a copy of the  
28 certification to the obligor. Upon request of the obligor, the clerk shall mail a copy of the  
29 certification to the appropriate licensing board. Upon reinstatement of the person whose  
30 licensing privileges were revoked based on failure to comply with a subpoena, the clerk  
31 of superior court shall certify that the person has complied with or is no longer subject to  
32 the subpoena. Upon request of the person whose licensing privileges are reinstated, the  
33 clerk shall mail a copy of the certification to the appropriate licensing board.

34 (e) ~~The obligor~~ An obligor or other person whose licensing privileges are  
35 reinstated under this section may provide a copy of the certification set forth in either  
36 subsection (c) or (d) to each licensing agency to which the obligor or other person applies  
37 for reinstatement of licensing privileges. Upon request of the ~~obligor~~, obligor or other  
38 person, the clerk shall mail a copy of the certification to the appropriate licensing board.  
39 Upon receipt of a copy of the certification, the licensing board shall reinstate the license.

40 (f) Upon receipt of notification by the clerk that ~~the obligor's~~ an obligor's or other  
41 person's licensing privileges are revoked, ~~revoked pursuant to this section,~~ the board shall  
42 note the revocation on its records and take all necessary steps to implement and enforce  
43 the revocation. These steps shall not include the board's independent revocation process

1 pursuant to Chapter 150B of the General Statutes, the Administrative Procedure Act,  
2 which process is replaced by the court process prescribed by this section. The revocation  
3 pertaining to an obligor shall remain in full force and effect until the board receives  
4 certification under this section that the obligor is no longer delinquent in child support  
5 payments. The revocation pertaining to the person whose licensing privileges were  
6 revoked on the basis of failure to comply with a subpoena shall remain in full force and  
7 effect until the board receives certification of reinstatement under subsection (d) of this  
8 section."

9 Section 5.4. G.S. 93B-13 reads as rewritten:

10 **"§ 93B-13. Revocation when licensing privilege forfeited for nonpayment of child**  
11 **support. support or for failure to comply with subpoena.**

12 (a) Upon receipt of a court order, pursuant to G.S. 50-13.12, revoking the  
13 occupational license of a licensee under its jurisdiction, an occupational licensing board  
14 shall note the revocation in its records and follow the normal postrevocation rules and  
15 procedures of the board as if the revocation had been ordered by the board. The  
16 revocation shall remain in effect until the board receives certification by the clerk of  
17 superior court that the licensee is no longer delinquent in child support ~~payments.~~  
18 payments, or, as applicable, that the licensee is in compliance with or is no longer subject  
19 to the subpoena that was the basis for the revocation.

20 (b) Upon receipt of notification from the Department of Human Resources that a  
21 licensee under an occupational licensing board's jurisdiction has forfeited the licensee's  
22 occupational license pursuant to G.S. 110-142.1, then the occupational licensing board  
23 shall send a notice of intent to revoke or suspend the occupational license of that licensee  
24 as provided by G.S. 110-142.1(d). If the license is revoked as provided by the provisions  
25 of G.S. 110-142.1, the revocation shall remain in effect until the board receives  
26 certification by the designated representative or the child support enforcement agency  
27 that the licensee is no longer delinquent in child support ~~payments.~~ payments, or, as  
28 applicable, that the licensee is in compliance with or no longer subject to a subpoena that  
29 was the basis for the revocation.

30 (c) If at the time the court revokes a license pursuant to subsection (a) of this  
31 section, or if at the time the occupational licensing board revokes a license pursuant to  
32 subsection (b) of this section, the occupational licensing board has revoked the same  
33 license under the licensing board's disciplinary authority over licensees under its  
34 jurisdiction, and that revocation period is greater than the revocation period resulting  
35 from forfeiture pursuant to G.S. 50-13.12 or G.S. 110-142.1 then the revocation period  
36 imposed by the occupational licensing board applies.

37 (d) Immediately upon certification by the clerk of superior court or the child  
38 support enforcement agency that the licensee whose license was revoked pursuant to  
39 subsection (a) or (b) of this section is no longer delinquent in child support payments, the  
40 occupational licensing board shall reinstate the license. Immediately upon certification by  
41 the clerk of superior court or the child support enforcement agency that the licensee  
42 whose license was revoked because of failure to comply with a subpoena is in  
43 compliance with or no longer subject to the subpoena, the occupational licensing board

1 shall reinstate the license. Reinstatement of a license pursuant to this section shall be  
2 made at no additional cost to the licensee."  
3

#### 4 **PART 6. INCOME WITHHOLDING.**

5 Section 6. G.S. 110-136.8(b) reads as rewritten:

6 "(b) Payor's responsibilities. A payor who has been properly served with a notice to  
7 withhold is required to:

- 8 (1) Withhold from the obligor's disposable income and, within ~~10-7~~  
9 business days of the date the obligor is paid, send to the clerk of  
10 superior court or State collection and disbursement unit, as specified in  
11 the notice, the amount specified in the notice and the date the amount  
12 was withheld, but in no event more than the amount allowed by G.S.  
13 110-136.6; however, if a lesser amount of disposable income is  
14 available for any pay period, the payor shall either: (a) compute and  
15 send the appropriate amount to the clerk of court, using the percentages  
16 as provided in G.S. 110-136.6, or (b) request the initiating party to  
17 inform the payor of the proper amount to be withheld for that period;
- 18 (2) Continue withholding until further notice from the IV-D ~~agency or~~  
19 agency, the clerk of superior ~~court; court~~, or the State collection and  
20 disbursement unit;
- 21 (3) Withhold for child support before withholding pursuant to any other  
22 legal process under State law against the same disposable income;
- 23 (4) Begin withholding from the first payment due the obligor in the first pay  
24 period that occurs 14 days following the date the notice of the obligation  
25 to withhold was served on the payor;
- 26 (5) Promptly notify the obligee in a IV-D case, or the clerk of superior court  
27 or the State collection and disbursement unit in a non-IV-D case, in  
28 writing:
  - 29 a. If there is more than one child support withholding for the  
30 obligor;
  - 31 b. When the obligor terminates employment or otherwise ceases to  
32 be entitled to disposable income from the payor, and provide the  
33 obligor's last known address, and the name and address of his  
34 new employer, if known;
  - 35 c. Of the payor's inability to comply with the withholding for any  
36 reason; and
- 37 (6) Cooperate fully with the initiating party in the verification of the amount  
38 of the obligor's disposable income."  
39

#### 40 **PART 6A. EXPEDITED PROCEDURES FOR INCOME WITHHOLDING.**

41 Section 6.1. G.S. 110-136.3(b) reads as rewritten:

42 "(b) When obligor subject to withholding.



- 1 (1) In IV-D cases in which a new or modified child support order is entered  
2 on or after October 1, 1989, an obligor is subject to income withholding  
3 immediately upon entry of the order. In IV-D cases in which the child  
4 support order was entered prior to October 1, 1989, an obligor shall  
5 become subject to income withholding on the ~~earliest of:~~  
6 a. ~~The date on which the obligor fails to make legally obligated~~  
7 ~~child support payments in an amount equal to the support~~  
8 ~~payable for one month; month, or~~  
9 b. ~~The~~the date on which the obligor or obligee requests  
10 withholding.  
11 (2) In non-IV-D cases in which the child support order was entered prior to  
12 January 1, 1994, an obligor shall be subject to income withholding on  
13 the earliest of:  
14 a. The date on which the obligor fails to make legally obligated  
15 child support payments in an amount equal to the support  
16 payable for one month; ~~or~~  
17 b. The date on which the obligor requests withholding; or  
18 c. The date on which the court determines, pursuant to a motion or  
19 independent action filed by the obligee under G.S. 110-136.5(a),  
20 that the obligor is or has been delinquent in making child support  
21 payments or has been erratic in making child support payments.  
22 (3) In IV-D child support cases in which an order was issued or modified in  
23 this State prior to October 1, 1996, and in which the obligor is not  
24 otherwise subject to withholding, the obligor shall become subject to  
25 withholding if the obligor fails to make legally obligated child support  
26 payments in an amount equal to the support payable for one month."

27 Section 6.2. G.S. 110-136.4(a)(2) reads as rewritten:

- 28 "(2) Contents of advance notice. The advance notice to the obligor shall  
29 contain, at a minimum, the following information:  
30 a. Whether the proposed withholding is based on the obligor's  
31 failure to make legally obligated payments in an amount equal to  
32 the support payable for one ~~month or month,~~ on the obligor's  
33 request for ~~withholding or withholding,~~ on the obligee's request  
34 for ~~withholding; withholding,~~ or on the obligor's eligibility for  
35 withholding under G.S. 110-136.3(b)(3);  
36 b. The amount of overdue support, the total amount to be withheld,  
37 and when the withholding will occur;  
38 c. The name of each child for whose benefit the child support is  
39 due, and information sufficient to identify the court order under  
40 which the obligor has a duty to support the child;  
41 d. The amount and sources of disposable income;  
42 e. That the withholding will apply to the obligor's wages or other  
43 sources of disposable income from current payors and all

1 subsequent payors once the procedures under this section are  
2 invoked;

3 f. An explanation of the obligor's rights and responsibilities  
4 pursuant to this section;

5 g. That withholding will be continued until terminated pursuant to  
6 G.S. 110-136.10."  
7

8 **PART 7. ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIEN ON REAL AND PERSONAL**  
9 **PROPERTY OF PERSON OWING PAST-DUE CHILD SUPPORT.**

10 Section 7. Chapter 44 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
11 following new Article to read:

12 **"ARTICLE 15.**

13 **"LIENS FOR OVERDUE CHILD SUPPORT.**

14 **"§ 44-86. Lien on real and personal property of person owing past-due child**  
15 **support; definitions; filing required; discharge.**

16 (a) Definitions. As used in this Article, the terms 'designated representative',  
17 'obligee', and 'obligor' have the meanings given them in G.S. 110-129.

18 (b) Lien Created. There is created a general lien upon the real and personal  
19 property of any person who is delinquent in the payment of court-ordered child support.  
20 For purposes of this section, an obligor is delinquent when arrears under a court-ordered  
21 child support obligation equals three months of payments or three thousand dollars  
22 (\$3,000), whichever occurs first. The amount of the lien shall be determined by a  
23 verified statement of child support delinquency prepared in accordance with subsection  
24 (c) of this section.

25 (c) Contents of Statement; Verification. A verified statement of child support  
26 delinquency shall contain the following information:

27 (1) The caption and file docket number of the case in which child support  
28 was ordered;

29 (2) The date of the order of support;

30 (3) The amount of the child support obligation established by the order; and

31 (4) The amount of the arrearage as of the date of the statement.

32 The statement shall be verified by the designated representative in a IV-D case and by the  
33 obligee in a non-IV-D case.

34 (d) Filing and Perfection of Lien. The verified statement shall be filed in the  
35 office of the clerk of superior court in the county in which the child support was ordered.  
36 At the time of filing the verified statement, the designated representative in a IV-D case  
37 and the obligee in a non-IV-D case shall serve notice on the obligor that the statement has  
38 been filed. The notice shall be served and the return of service filed with the clerk of  
39 court in accordance with Rule 4 of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure. The  
40 notice shall specify the manners in which the lien may be discharged. Upon perfection of  
41 the lien, as set forth herein, the clerk shall docket and index the statement on the  
42 judgment docket. The clerk shall issue a transcript of the docketed statement to the clerk  
43 of any other county as requested by the designated representative in a IV-D case or the

1 obligee in a non-IV-D case. The clerk receiving the transcript shall docket and index the  
2 transcript. A lien on personal property attaches when the property is seized by the  
3 sheriff. A lien on real property attaches when the perfected lien is docketed and indexed  
4 on the judgment docket.

5 (1) IV-D Cases. In IV-D cases, the filing of a verified statement with the  
6 clerk of court by the designated representative shall perfect the lien.  
7 The obligor may contest the lien by motion in the cause.

8 (2) Non-IV-D Cases. In a non-IV-D case, the notice to the obligor of the  
9 filing of the verified statement shall state that the obligor has 30 days  
10 from the date of service to request a hearing before a district court judge  
11 to contest the validity of the lien. If the obligor fails to contest the lien  
12 after 30 days from the time of service, the obligee may make application  
13 to the clerk, and the clerk shall record and index the lien on the  
14 judgment docket. If the obligee files a petition contesting the validity of  
15 the lien, a hearing shall be held before a district court judge to determine  
16 whether the lien is valid and proper. In contested cases, the clerk of  
17 court shall record and index the lien on the judgment docket only by  
18 order of the judge. The docketing of a verified statement in a non-IV-D  
19 case shall perfect the lien when duly recorded and indexed.

20 (e) Lien Superior to Subsequent Liens. Except as otherwise provided by law, a  
21 lien established in accordance with this section shall take priority over all other liens  
22 subsequently acquired and shall continue from the date of filing until discharged in  
23 accordance with G.S. 44-87.

24 (f) Execution on the Lien. A designated representative in a IV-D case, after 30  
25 days from the docketing of the perfected lien, or an obligee in a non-IV-D case, after  
26 docketing the perfected lien, may enforce the lien in the same manner as for a civil  
27 judgment.

28 (g) Liens Arising Out-of-State. This State shall accord full faith and credit to child  
29 support liens arising in another state when the child support enforcement agency, party,  
30 or other entity seeking to enforce the lien complies with the requirements relating to  
31 recording and serving child support liens as set forth in this Article and with the  
32 requirements relating to the enforcement of foreign judgments as set forth in Chapter 1C  
33 of the General Statutes.

34 **"§ 44-87. Discharge of lien; penalty for failure to discharge.**

35 (a) Liens created by this Article may be discharged as follows:

36 (1) By the designated representative in IV-D cases, or by the obligee in  
37 non-IV-D cases, filing with the clerk of superior court an  
38 acknowledgment that the obligor has satisfied the full amount of the  
39 lien;

40 (2) By depositing with the clerk of superior court money equal to the  
41 amount of the claim and filing a petition in the cause requesting a  
42 district court judge to determine the validity of the lien. The money

1 shall not be disbursed except by order of a district court judge following  
2 the hearing on the merits; or

- 3 (3) By an entry in the judgment docket book that the action on the part of  
4 the lien claimant to enforce the lien has been dismissed, or a judgment  
5 has been rendered against the claimant in such action.

6 (b) An obligee in a non-IV-D case who has received payment in full for a  
7 delinquent child support obligation which is the basis for the lien shall, within 30 days of  
8 receipt of payment, file with the clerk of court an acknowledgment that the obligor has  
9 satisfied the full amount of the lien and that the lien is discharged. If the lienholder fails  
10 to timely file the acknowledgment, the obligor may, after serving notice on the obligee,  
11 file an action in district court to discharge the lien. If in an action filed by the obligor to  
12 discharge the lien, the court discharges the lien and finds that the obligee failed to timely  
13 file an acknowledgment discharging the lien, then the court may allow the prevailing  
14 party to recover reasonable attorneys' fees to be taxed as court costs against the obligee."

15 Section 7.1. G.S. 50-13.4(f)(8) reads as rewritten:

- 16 "(8) Except as provided in Article 15 of Chapter 44 of the General Statutes, a  
17 A-judgment for child support shall not be a lien against real property  
18 unless the judgment expressly so provides, sets out the amount of the  
19 lien in a sum certain, and adequately describes the real property  
20 affected; but past due periodic payments may by motion in the cause or  
21 by a separate action be reduced to judgment which shall be a lien as  
22 other judgments."

23  
24 **PART 8. DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES TO DEVELOP**  
25 **AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING AND INFORMATION SYSTEM, AND**  
26 **CENTRALIZED COLLECTION AND DISBURSEMENT SYSTEM FOR THE**  
27 **ENHANCEMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT COLLECTION AND**  
28 **DISBURSEMENT.**

29 Section 8. (a) Automated System. The Department of Human Resources shall  
30 develop a single statewide automated data processing and information retrieval system to  
31 enhance enforcement of child support obligations. The system shall have the capability  
32 to perform the following tasks:

- 33 (1) Program management, including the controlling and accounting for use  
34 of federal, State, and local funds in carrying out the State child support  
35 enforcement program, and maintaining the data necessary to meet  
36 federal reporting requirements on a timely basis;
- 37 (2) Maintenance of requisite data on State performance with respect to  
38 paternity establishment and child support enforcement, including  
39 systems controls to ensure completeness and reliability of and ready  
40 access to this data;
- 41 (3) Establishment of safeguards on the integrity, accuracy, and  
42 completeness of, access to, and use of data in the system. Safeguards

1 shall include policies restricting, controlling, and monitoring access to  
2 the system and database;

3 (4) Maintenance of the State's automated case tracking system (ACTS) in  
4 accordance with federal requirements;

5 (5) Information retrieval, comparisons, and disclosure, including the  
6 sharing and comparison of information from other databases and  
7 information comparison services. Comparison services shall include  
8 information retrieval and sharing with such databases as the Federal  
9 Case Registry of Child Support Orders, the Federal Parent Locator  
10 Service, temporary family assistance and Medicaid agencies, and other  
11 agencies of this State and agencies of other states and interstate  
12 information networks;

13 (6) Collection and distribution of support payments through the State  
14 Collection Disbursement Unit as required by federal law; and

15 (7) Implement expedited administrative procedures for the establishment of  
16 paternity and the enforcement of child support orders.

17 In addition, the system shall include procedures to ensure that all personnel who have  
18 access to confidential program data are trained in and informed of applicable  
19 requirements and penalties. The Department shall impose administrative penalties  
20 authorized by State law for unauthorized access to or disclosure or use of confidential  
21 data in the system.

22 (b) Progress Reports on Development. The Department shall provide periodic  
23 written progress reports to the Cochairs of the House and Senate Appropriations  
24 subcommittees on Human Resources, and to the Fiscal Research Division, not later than  
25 October 1, 1997, March 1, 1998, and October 1, 1998. Information contained in the  
26 report shall include, but not be limited to:

27 (1) Federal requirements for the automated system and collection and  
28 disbursements units;

29 (2) Status of development of the automated system and collection and  
30 disbursement unit as of the date of the progress report, and whether the  
31 development plan is on schedule, behind schedule, or ahead of schedule,  
32 and the reasons therefor;

33 (3) Projected costs to develop and operate the automated system; and  
34 projected savings, if any, from full implementation of the system;

35 (4) Projected costs to develop and operate the collection and disbursement  
36 unit, including recommendations on whether the Department should  
37 operate the unit or whether it should be operated by an outside  
38 contractor;

39 (5) The amount of State funds that must be appropriated for the 1998-99  
40 fiscal year to develop and implement the collection and disbursement  
41 unit; and

42 (6) Other information requested by the Cochairs or that the Department  
43 considers relevant and useful.

1 Section 8.1. Effective October 1, 1999, G.S. 110-139 is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection to read:

3 "(f) There is established the State Child Support Collection and Disbursement Unit.  
4 The duties of the Unit shall be the collection and disbursement of payments under support  
5 orders for:

6 (1) All IV-D cases, and

7 (2) All non-IV-D cases in which the support order was initially issued in  
8 this State on or after January 1, 1994, and in which the income of the  
9 noncustodial parent is subject to income withholding.

10 The Department may administer and operate the Unit or may contract with another  
11 State or private entity for the administration and operation of the Unit."

12 Section 8.2. G.S. 110-139.1(a) reads as rewritten:

13 "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the ~~The~~ parent locator service of  
14 the Department of Human Resources shall transmit, upon payment of the fee prescribed  
15 by federal law, requests for information as to the whereabouts of any ~~absent~~ parent or  
16 child to the federal parental locator service when such requests are made by judges,  
17 clerks of superior court, district attorneys, or United States attorneys, and when the  
18 information is to be used to locate the parent or child for the purpose of enforcing State or  
19 federal law with respect to:

20 (1) ~~the~~ ~~The~~ unlawful taking or restraint of a ~~child~~ ~~child~~;

21 (2) ~~or making~~ ~~Making~~ or enforcing a child custody ~~determination.~~  
22 ~~determination, including visitation orders;~~

23 (3) Establishing paternity; or

24 (4) Establishing, setting or modifying the amount of, or enforcing child  
25 support obligations.

26 The Department shall not disclose any information from or through the parent locator  
27 service if there is reasonable evidence of domestic violence or child abuse and the  
28 disclosure of the information could be harmful to the custodial parent or the child of the  
29 custodial parent."

## 30 **PART 9. FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS/DATA MATCH SYSTEM.**

31 Section 9. Chapter 110 of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
32 following new section to read:

33 **"§ 110-139.2. Data match system; agreements with financial institutions.**

34 (a) The Department of Human Resources and financial institutions doing business  
35 in this State shall enter into mutual agreements for the purpose of facilitating the  
36 enforcement of child support obligations. The agreements shall provide for the  
37 development and operation of a data match system that will enable the financial  
38 institutions to provide to the Department on a quarterly basis the information required  
39 under G.S. 110-139(d). Financial institutions shall provide the information upon  
40 certification by the Department that the person about whom the information is requested  
41 is subject to a child support order and the information is necessary to enforce the order.  
42 The Department may pay a reasonable fee to the financial institution for conducting the  
43 information.

1 data match required under this section provided that the fee shall not exceed the actual  
2 costs incurred by the financial institution to conduct the match.

3 (b) A financial institution shall not be liable under any State law, including but not  
4 limited to Chapter 53B of the General Statutes, for disclosure of information to the State  
5 child support agency under this section, and for any other action taken by the financial  
6 institution in good faith to comply with this section or with G.S. 110-139.

7 (c) As used in this subdivision, a financial institution includes federal, State,  
8 commercial, or savings banks, savings and loan associations and cooperative banks,  
9 federal or State chartered credit unions, benefit associations, insurance companies, safe  
10 deposit companies, money market mutual funds, and investment companies doing  
11 business in this State or incorporated under the laws of this State."

12 Section 9.1. G.S. 110-139(d) reads as rewritten:

13 "(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law making this information  
14 confidential, including Chapter 53B of the General Statutes, any utility ~~company~~  
15 company, cable television company, or financial institution, including federal, State,  
16 commercial, or savings banks, savings and loan associations and cooperative banks,  
17 federal or State chartered credit unions, benefit associations, insurance companies, safe  
18 deposit companies, money market mutual funds, and investment companies doing  
19 business in this State or incorporated under the laws of this State shall provide the  
20 Department of Human Resources with the following information upon certification by  
21 the Department that the information is needed to locate a parent for the purpose of  
22 collecting child support or to establish or enforce an order for child support: full name,  
23 social security number, address, telephone number, account numbers, and other  
24 identifying data for any person who maintains an account at the utility ~~company~~  
25 company, cable television company, or financial institution. A utility ~~company~~  
26 cable television company, or financial institution that discloses information pursuant to  
27 this subsection in good faith reliance upon certification by the Department is not liable  
28 for damages resulting from the disclosure."  
29

## 30 **PART 10. AMEND UNIFORM INTERSTATE FAMILY SUPPORT ACT** 31 **(UIFSA).**

32 Section 10. G.S. 52C-1-101 reads as rewritten:

### 33 **"§ 52C-1-101. Definitions.**

34 As used in this Article, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the term:

- 35 (1) 'Child' means an individual, whether over or under the age of majority,  
36 who is or is alleged to be owed a duty of support by the individual's  
37 parent or who is or is alleged to be the beneficiary of a support order  
38 directed to the parent.
- 39 (2) 'Child support order' means a support order for a child, including a child  
40 who has attained the age of majority under the law of the issuing state.
- 41 (3) 'Duty of support' means an obligation imposed or imposable by law to  
42 provide support for a child, spouse, or former spouse, including an  
43 unsatisfied obligation to provide support.

- 1 (4) 'Home state' means the state in which a child lived with a parent or a  
2 person acting as parent for at least six consecutive months immediately  
3 preceding the time of filing of a petition or comparable pleading for  
4 support and, if a child is less than six-months old, the state in which the  
5 child lived from birth with any of them. A period of temporary absence  
6 of any of them is counted as part of the six-month or other period.
- 7 (5) 'Income' includes earnings or other periodic entitlements to money from  
8 any source and any other property subject to withholding for support  
9 under the law of this State.
- 10 (6) 'Income-withholding order' means an order or other legal process  
11 directed to a payer of income to withhold support from the income of  
12 the obligor.
- 13 (7) 'Initiating state' means a state ~~in~~ from which a proceeding is forwarded  
14 or in which a proceeding is filed for forwarding to a responding state  
15 under this Act or a law or procedure substantially similar to this Act, the  
16 Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the Revised  
17 Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act is filed for forwarding  
18 to a responding state. Act.
- 19 (8) 'Initiating tribunal' means the authorized tribunal in an initiating state.
- 20 (9) 'Issuing state' means the state in which a tribunal issues a support order  
21 or renders a judgment determining parentage.
- 22 (10) 'Issuing tribunal' means the tribunal that issues a support order or  
23 renders a judgment determining parentage.
- 24 (11) 'Law' includes decisional and statutory law and rules and regulations  
25 having the force of law.
- 26 (12) 'Obligee' means:  
27 a. An individual to whom a duty of support is or is alleged to be  
28 owed or in whose favor a support order has been issued or a  
29 judgment determining parentage has been rendered;  
30 b. A state or political subdivision to which the rights under a duty  
31 of support or support order have been assigned or which has  
32 independent claims based on financial assistance provided to an  
33 individual obligee; or  
34 c. An individual seeking a judgment determining parentage of the  
35 individual's child.
- 36 (13) 'Obligor' means an individual, or the estate of a decedent:  
37 a. Who owes or is alleged to owe a duty of support;  
38 b. Who is alleged but has not been adjudicated to be a parent of a  
39 child; or  
40 c. Who is liable under a support order.
- 41 (14) 'Register' means to file a support order or judgment determining  
42 paternity in the appropriate location for the recording or filing of foreign  
43 judgments generally or foreign support orders specifically.



- 1 (15) 'Registering tribunal' means a tribunal in which a support order is  
2 registered.
- 3 (16) 'Responding state' means a state ~~to~~in which a proceeding is filed or to  
4 which a proceeding is forwarded for filing from an initiating state under  
5 this Act or a law or procedure substantially similar to this Act, the  
6 Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the Revised  
7 Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act.
- 8 (17) 'Responding tribunal' means the authorized tribunal in a responding  
9 state.
- 10 (18) 'Spousal-support order' means a support order for a spouse or former  
11 spouse of the obligor.
- 12 (19) 'State' means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, ~~the~~  
13 ~~Commonwealth of~~ Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any  
14 territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United  
15 States. The term 'state' includes:
- 16 a. An Indian tribe; and ~~includes~~
- 17 b. A foreign jurisdiction that has enacted a law or established  
18 procedures for issuance and enforcement of support orders which  
19 are substantially similar to the procedures under this Chapter.  
20 Act, the Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act, or the  
21 Revised Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act.
- 22 (20) 'Support enforcement agency' means a public official or agency  
23 authorized to seek:
- 24 a. Enforcement of support orders or duties of ~~support support~~;
- 25 b. ~~to seek establishment~~ Establishment or modification of child  
26 ~~support, support~~;
- 27 c. ~~to seek determination~~ Determination of paternity, parentage; or
- 28 d. ~~to~~ To locate obligors or their assets.
- 29 (21) 'Support order' means a judgment, decree, or order, whether temporary,  
30 final, or subject to modification, for the benefit of a child, a spouse, or a  
31 former spouse, which provides for monetary support, health care,  
32 arrears, or reimbursement, and may include related costs and fees,  
33 interest, income withholding, attorneys' fees, and other relief.
- 34 (22) 'Tribunal' means a court, administrative agency, or quasi-judicial entity  
35 authorized to establish, enforce, or modify support orders or to  
36 determine paternity, except that, for matters heard in this State, tribunal  
37 means the General Court of Justice, District Court Division."

38 Section 10.1. G.S. 52C-2-203 reads as rewritten:

39 "**§ 52C-2-203. Initiating and responding tribunal of ~~this State.~~ state.**

40 Under this Chapter, a tribunal of this State may serve as an initiating tribunal to  
41 forward proceedings to another state and as a responding tribunal for proceedings  
42 initiated in another state."

43 Section 10.2. G.S. 52C-2-205 reads as rewritten:

1 **"§ 52C-2-205. Continuing, exclusive jurisdiction.**

2 (a) A tribunal of this State issuing a support order consistent with the law of this  
3 State has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over a child support order:

4 (1) As long as this State remains the residence of the obligor, the individual  
5 obligee, or the child for whose benefit the support order is issued; or

6 (2) Until ~~each individual party has all of the parties who are individuals~~  
7 have filed written consent consents with the tribunal of this State for a  
8 tribunal of another state to modify the order and assume continuing,  
9 exclusive jurisdiction.

10 (b) A tribunal of this State issuing a child support order consistent with the law of  
11 this State may not exercise its continuing jurisdiction to modify the order if the order has  
12 been modified by a tribunal of another state pursuant to a law substantially similar to this  
13 Chapter.

14 (c) If a child support order of this State is modified by a tribunal of another state  
15 pursuant to a law substantially similar to this Chapter, a tribunal of this State loses its  
16 continuing, exclusive jurisdiction with regard to prospective enforcement of the order  
17 issued in this State, and may only:

18 (1) Enforce the order that was modified as to amounts accruing before the  
19 modification;

20 (2) Enforce nonmodifiable aspects of that order; and

21 (3) Provide other appropriate relief for violations of that order which  
22 occurred before the effective date of the modification.

23 (d) A tribunal of this State shall recognize the continuing, exclusive jurisdiction of  
24 a tribunal of another state which has issued a child support order pursuant to a law  
25 substantially similar to this Chapter.

26 (e) A temporary support order issued ex parte or pending resolution of a  
27 jurisdictional conflict does not create continuing, exclusive jurisdiction in the issuing  
28 tribunal.

29 (f) A tribunal of this State issuing a support order consistent with the law of this  
30 State has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over a spousal support order throughout the  
31 existence of the support obligation. A tribunal of this State may not modify a spousal  
32 support order issued by a tribunal of another state having continuing, exclusive  
33 jurisdiction over that order under the law of that state."

34 Section 10.3. (a) The title of Part 3 of Article 2 of Chapter 52C of the General  
35 Statutes reads as rewritten:

36 "Part 3. Reconciliation ~~With Orders of Other States. of Multiple Orders.~~"

37 (b) G.S. 52C-2-207 reads as rewritten:

38 **"§ 52C-2-207. Recognition of controlling child support orders. ~~order.~~**

39 (a) ~~If a proceeding is brought under this Chapter, and one or more child support~~  
40 ~~orders have been issued in this or another state with regard to an obligor and a child, a~~  
41 ~~tribunal of this State shall apply the following rules in determining which order to~~  
42 ~~recognize for purposes of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction:~~

- 1           (1) ~~If only one tribunal has issued a child support order, the order of that~~  
2           ~~tribunal must be recognized.~~
- 3           (2) ~~If two or more tribunals have issued child support orders for the same~~  
4           ~~obligor and child, and only one of the tribunals would have continuing,~~  
5           ~~exclusive jurisdiction under this Chapter, the order of that tribunal must~~  
6           ~~be recognized.~~
- 7           (3) ~~If two or more tribunals have issued child support orders for the same~~  
8           ~~obligor and child, and more than one of the tribunals would have~~  
9           ~~continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under this Chapter, an order issued by~~  
10          ~~a tribunal in the current home state of the child must be recognized, but~~  
11          ~~if an order has not been issued in the current home state of the child, the~~  
12          ~~order most recently issued must be recognized.~~
- 13          (4) ~~If two or more tribunals have issued child support orders for the same~~  
14          ~~obligor and child, and none of the tribunals would have continuing,~~  
15          ~~exclusive jurisdiction under this Chapter, the tribunal of this State may~~  
16          ~~issue a child support order, which must be recognized.~~
- 17          (b) ~~The tribunal that has issued an order recognized under subsection (a) of this~~  
18          ~~section is the tribunal having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction.~~
- 19          (a) If a proceeding is brought under this Chapter and only one tribunal has issued a  
20          child support order, the order of that tribunal controls and must be so recognized.
- 21          (b) If a proceeding is brought under this Chapter, and two or more child support  
22          orders have been issued by tribunals of this State or another state with regard to the same  
23          obligor and child, a tribunal of this State shall apply the following rules in determining  
24          which order to recognize for purposes of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction:
- 25               (1) If only one of the tribunals would have continuing, exclusive  
26               jurisdiction under this Chapter, the order of that tribunal controls and  
27               must be so recognized.
- 28               (2) If more than one of the tribunals would have continuing, exclusive  
29               jurisdiction under this Chapter, an order issued by a tribunal in the  
30               current home state of the child controls and must be so recognized, but  
31               if an order has not been issued in the current home state of the child, the  
32               order most recently issued controls and must be so recognized.
- 33               (3) If none of the tribunals would have continuing, exclusive jurisdiction  
34               under this Chapter, the tribunal of this State having jurisdiction over the  
35               parties shall issue a child support order, which controls and must be so  
36               recognized.
- 37          (c) If two or more child support orders have been issued for the same obligor and  
38          child and if the obligor or the individual obligee resides in this State, a party may request  
39          a tribunal of this State to determine which order controls and must be so recognized  
40          under subsection (b) of this section. The request must be accompanied by a certified  
41          copy of every support order in effect. The requesting party shall give notice of the  
42          request to each party whose rights may be affected by a certified copy of every support

1 order in the effect. The requesting party shall give notice of the request to each party  
2 whose rights may be affected by the determination.

3 (d) The tribunal that issued the controlling order under subsection (a), (b), or (c) of  
4 this section is the tribunal that has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction under G.S. 52C-2-  
5 205.

6 (e) A tribunal of this State which determines by order the identity of the  
7 controlling order under subdivision (b)(1) or (2) of this section or which issues a new  
8 controlling order under subdivision (b)(3) of this section shall state in that order the basis  
9 upon which the tribunal made its determination.

10 (f) Within 30 days after issuance of an order determining the identity of the  
11 controlling order, the party obtaining the order shall file a certified copy of it with each  
12 tribunal that issued or registered an earlier order of child support. A party who obtains  
13 the order and fails to file a certified copy is subject to appropriate sanctions by a tribunal  
14 in which the issue of failure to file arises. The failure to file does not affect the validity  
15 or enforceability of the controlling order."

16 Section 10.4. G.S. 52C-3-304 reads as rewritten:

17 "**§ 52C-3-304. Duties of initiating tribunal.**

18 (a) Upon the filing of a petition authorized by this Chapter, an initiating tribunal of  
19 this State shall forward three copies of the petition and its accompanying documents:

20 (1) To the responding tribunal or appropriate support enforcement agency  
21 in the responding state; or

22 (2) If the identity of the responding tribunal is unknown, to the state  
23 information agency of the responding state with a request that they be  
24 forwarded to the appropriate tribunal and that receipt be acknowledged.

25 (b) If a responding state has not enacted this act or a law or procedure substantially  
26 similar to this act, a tribunal of this State may issue a certificate or other document and  
27 make findings required by the law of the responding state. If the responding State is a  
28 foreign jurisdiction, the tribunal may specify the amount of support sought and provide  
29 other documents necessary to satisfy the requirements of the responding state."

30 Section 10.5. G.S. 52C-3-305 reads as rewritten:

31 "**§ 52C-3-305. Duties and powers of responding tribunal.**

32 (a) When a responding tribunal of this State receives a petition or comparable  
33 pleading from an initiating tribunal or directly pursuant to G.S. 52C-3-301(c) it shall  
34 cause the petition or pleading to be filed and notify the petitioner ~~by first-class mail~~  
35 where and when it was filed.

36 (b) A responding tribunal of this State, to the extent otherwise authorized by law,  
37 may do one or more of the following:

38 (1) Issue or enforce a support order, modify a child support order, or render  
39 a judgment to determine parentage;

40 (2) Order an obligor to comply with a support order, specifying the amount  
41 and the manner of compliance;

42 (3) Order income withholding;

43 (4) Determine the amount of any arrears, and specify a method of payment;

- 1 (5) Enforce orders by civil or criminal contempt, or both;
- 2 (6) Set aside property for satisfaction of the support order;
- 3 (7) Place liens and order execution on the obligor's property;
- 4 (8) Order an obligor to keep the tribunal informed of the obligor's current
- 5 residential address, telephone number, employer, address of
- 6 employment, and telephone number at the place of employment;
- 7 (9) Issue an order for arrest for an obligor who has failed after proper notice
- 8 to appear at a hearing ordered by the tribunal and enter the order for
- 9 arrest in any local and State computer systems for criminal warrants;
- 10 (10) Order the obligor to seek appropriate employment by specified methods;
- 11 (11) Award reasonable attorneys' fees and other fees and costs; and
- 12 (12) Grant any other available remedy.

13 (c) A responding tribunal of this State shall include in a support order issued under  
14 this Chapter, or in the documents accompanying the order, the calculations on which the  
15 support order is based.

16 (d) A responding tribunal of this State may not condition the payment of a support  
17 order issued under this Chapter upon compliance by a party with provisions for visitation.

18 (e) If a responding tribunal of this State issues an order under this Chapter, the  
19 tribunal shall send a copy of the order ~~by first class mail~~ to the petitioner and the  
20 respondent and to the initiating tribunal, if any."

21 Section 10.6. G.S. 52C-3-306 reads as rewritten:

22 **"§ 52C-3-306. Inappropriate tribunal.**

23 If a petition or comparable pleading is received by an inappropriate tribunal of this  
24 State, it shall forward the pleading and accompanying documents to an appropriate  
25 tribunal in this State or another state and notify the petitioner ~~by first class mail~~ where  
26 and when the pleading was sent."

27 Section 10.7. G.S. 52C-3-307 reads as rewritten:

28 **"§ 52C-3-307. Duties of support enforcement agency.**

29 (a) A support enforcement agency of this State, upon request, shall provide  
30 services to a petitioner in a proceeding under this Chapter.

31 (b) A support enforcement agency that is providing services to the petitioner as  
32 appropriate shall:

- 33 (1) Take all steps necessary to enable an appropriate tribunal in this State or
- 34 another state to obtain jurisdiction over the respondent;
- 35 (2) Request an appropriate tribunal to set a date, time, and place for a
- 36 hearing;
- 37 (3) Make a reasonable effort to obtain all relevant information, including
- 38 information as to income and property of the parties;
- 39 (4) Within two days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays,
- 40 after receipt of a written notice from an initiating, responding, or
- 41 registering tribunal, send a copy of the notice ~~by first class mail~~ to the
- 42 petitioner;

1 (5) Within two days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays,  
2 after receipt of a written communication from the respondent or the  
3 respondent's attorney, send a copy of the communication by ~~first-class~~  
4 ~~mail~~ to the petitioner; and

5 (6) Notify the petitioner if jurisdiction over the respondent cannot be  
6 obtained.

7 (c) This Chapter does not create or negate a relationship of attorney and client or  
8 other fiduciary relationship between a support enforcement agency or the attorney for the  
9 agency and the individual being assisted by the agency."

10 Section 10.8. Article 5 of Chapter 52C of the General Statutes reads as  
11 rewritten:

12 "ARTICLE 5.

13 "~~Direct~~ Enforcement of Order of Another State Without Registration.

14 "**§ 52C-5-501. ~~Recognition~~ Employer's receipt of income-withholding order of**  
15 **another state.**

16 (a) An income-withholding order issued in another state may be sent by ~~first-class~~  
17 ~~mail~~ to the person or entity defined or identified as the obligor's employer under the  
18 income-withholding provisions of Chapter 50 or Chapter 110 of the General Statutes, as  
19 applicable, without first filing a petition or comparable pleading or registering the order  
20 with a tribunal of this State. Upon receipt of the order, the employer shall:

21 (1) Treat an income-withholding order issued in another state which  
22 appears regular on its face as if it had been issued by a tribunal of this  
23 State;

24 (2) Immediately provide a copy of the order to the obligor; and

25 (3) Distribute the funds as directed in the withholding order.

26 (b) ~~An obligor may contest the validity or enforcement of an income withholding~~  
27 ~~order issued in another state in the same manner as if the order had been issued by a~~  
28 ~~tribunal of this State. G.S. 52C-6-604 applies to the contest. The obligor shall give notice~~  
29 ~~of the contest to any support enforcement agency providing services to the obligee and to:~~

30 (1) ~~The person or agency designated to receive payments in the income-~~  
31 ~~withholding order; or~~

32 (2) ~~If no person or agency is designated, the obligee.~~

33 "**§ 52C-5-502. ~~Administrative enforcement of orders.~~**

34 (a) ~~A party seeking to enforce a support order or an income withholding order, or~~  
35 ~~both, issued by a tribunal of another state may send the documents required for~~  
36 ~~registering the order to a support enforcement agency of this State.~~

37 (b) ~~Upon receipt of the documents, the support enforcement agency, without~~  
38 ~~initially seeking to register the order, shall consider and, if appropriate, use any~~  
39 ~~administrative procedure authorized by the law of this State to enforce a support order or~~  
40 ~~an income withholding order, or both. If the obligor does not contest administrative~~  
41 ~~enforcement, the order need not be registered. If the obligor contests the validity or~~  
42 ~~administrative enforcement of the order, the support enforcement agency shall register~~  
43 ~~the order pursuant to this Chapter.~~

**Employer's compliance with income-withholding order of another state.**

(a) Upon receipt of an income-withholding order, the obligor's employer shall immediately provide a copy of the order to the obligor.

(b) The employer shall treat an income-withholding order issued in another state which appears regular on its face as if it had been issued by a tribunal of this State.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of this section and G.S. 52C-5-503, the employer shall withhold and distribute the funds as directed in the income-withholding order by complying with terms of the order which specify:

(1) The duration and amount of periodic payments of current child support, stated as a sum certain;

(2) The person or agency designated to receive payments and the address to which the payments are to be forwarded;

(3) Medical support, whether in the form of periodic cash payment, stated as a sum certain, or ordering the obligor to provide health insurance coverage for the child under a policy available through the obligor's employment;

(4) The amount of periodic payments of fees and costs for a support enforcement agency, the issuing tribunal, and the obligee's attorney, stated as sums certain; and

(5) The amount of periodic payments of arrearages and interest on arrearages, stated as sums certain.

(d) An employer shall comply with the law of the state of the obligor's principal place of employment for withholding from income with respect to:

(1) The employer's fee for processing an income-withholding order;

(2) The maximum amount permitted to be withheld from the obligor's income; and

(3) The times within which the employer must implement the income-withholding order and forward the child support payment.

**§ 52C-5-503. Compliance with multiple income-withholding orders.**

If an obligor's employer receives multiple income-withholding orders with respect to the earnings of the same obligor, the employer satisfies the terms of the multiple orders if the employer complies with the law of the state of the obligor's principal place of employment to establish the priorities for withholding and allocating income withheld for multiple child support obligees.

**§ 52C-5-504. Immunity from civil liability.**

An employer who complies with an income-withholding order issued in another state in accordance with this Article is not subject to civil liability to an individual or agency with regard to the employer's withholding of child support from the obligor's income.

**§ 52C-5-505. Penalties for noncompliance.**

An employer who willfully fails to comply with an income-withholding order issued by another state and received for enforcement is subject to the same penalties that may be imposed for noncompliance with an order issued by a tribunal of this State.

**§ 52C-5-506. Contest by obligor.**

1 (a) An obligor may contest the validity or enforcement of an income-withholding  
2 order issued in another state and received directly by an employer in this State in the  
3 same manner as if the order had been issued by a tribunal of this State. G.S. 52C-6-604  
4 applies to the contest.

5 (b) The obligor shall give notice of the contest to:

6 (1) A support enforcement agency providing services to the obligee;

7 (2) Each employer that has directly received an income-withholding order;  
8 and

9 (3) The person or agency designated to receive payments in the income-  
10 withholding order if no person or agency is designated, to the obligee.

11 **"§ 52C-5-507. Administrative enforcement of orders.**

12 (a) A party seeking to enforce a support order or an income-withholding order, or  
13 both, issued by a tribunal of another state may send the documents required for  
14 registering the order to a support enforcement agency of this State.

15 (b) Upon receipt of the documents, the support enforcement agency, without  
16 initially seeking to register the order, shall consider and, if appropriate, use any  
17 administrative procedure authorized by the law of this State to enforce a support order or  
18 an income-withholding order, or both. If the obligor does not contest administrative  
19 enforcement, the order need not be registered. If the obligor contests the validity or  
20 administrative enforcement of the order, the support enforcement agency shall register  
21 the order pursuant to this Chapter."

22 Section 10.9. G.S. 52C-6-601 reads as rewritten:

23 **"§ 52C-6-601. Registration ~~or [of] of order for enforcement.~~**

24 A support order or an income-withholding order issued by a tribunal of another state  
25 may be registered in this State for enforcement."

26 Section 10.10. G.S. 52C-6-605 reads as rewritten:

27 **"§ 52C-6-605. Notice of registration of order.**

28 (a) When a support order or income-withholding order issued in another state is  
29 registered, the registering tribunal shall notify the nonregistering party. ~~Notice must be~~  
30 ~~given by first class, certified, or registered mail or by any means of personal service~~  
31 ~~authorized by the law of this State.~~ The notice must be accompanied by a copy of the  
32 registered order and the documents and relevant information accompanying the order.

33 (b) The notice must inform the nonregistering party:

34 (1) That a registered order is enforceable as of the date of registration in the  
35 same manner as an order issued by a tribunal of this State;

36 (2) That a hearing to contest the validity or enforcement of the registered  
37 order must be requested within 20 days after ~~the date of mailing or~~  
38 ~~personal service of the notice;~~

39 (3) That failure to contest the validity or enforcement of the registered order  
40 in a timely manner will result in confirmation of the order and  
41 enforcement of the order and the alleged arrears and precludes further  
42 contest of that order with respect to any matter that could have been  
43 asserted; and



1 (4) Of the amount of any alleged arrears.

2 (c) Upon registration of an income-withholding order for enforcement, the  
3 registering tribunal shall notify the obligor's employer pursuant to the income-  
4 withholding provisions of Chapter 50 or Chapter 110 of the General Statutes, as  
5 applicable."

6 Section 10.11. G.S. 52C-6-606 reads as rewritten:

7 "**§ 52C-6-606. Procedure to contest validity or enforcement of registered order.**

8 (a) A nonregistering party seeking to contest the validity or enforcement of a  
9 registered order in this State shall request a hearing within 20 days after ~~the date of~~  
10 ~~mailing or personal service of~~ notice of the registration. The nonregistering party may  
11 seek to vacate the registration, to assert any defense to an allegation of noncompliance  
12 with the registered order, or to contest the remedies being sought or the amount of any  
13 alleged arrears pursuant to G.S. 52C-6-607.

14 (b) If the nonregistering party fails to contest the validity or enforcement of the  
15 registered order in a timely manner, the order is confirmed by operation of law.

16 (c) If a nonregistering party requests a hearing to contest the validity or  
17 enforcement of the registered order, the registering tribunal shall schedule the matter for  
18 hearing and give notice to the parties ~~by first-class mail~~ of the date, time, and place of the  
19 hearing."

20 Section 10.12. G.S. 52C-6-611 reads as rewritten:

21 "**§ 52C-6-611. Modification of child support order of another state.**

22 (a) After a child support order issued in another state has been registered in this  
23 State, the responding tribunal of this State may modify that order only ~~if~~, if G.S. 52C-6-  
24 613 does not apply and after notice and ~~hearing~~, hearing it finds that:

25 (1) The following requirements are met:

- 26 a. The child, the individual obligee, and the obligor do not reside in  
27 the issuing state;
- 28 b. A petitioner who is a nonresident of this State seeks  
29 modification; and
- 30 c. The respondent is subject to the personal jurisdiction of the  
31 tribunal of this State; or

32 (2) ~~An individual party or the child~~ The child, or a party who is an  
33 individual, is subject to the personal jurisdiction of the tribunal of this  
34 State and all of the individual parties who are individuals have filed a  
35 written consent in the issuing tribunal providing that for a tribunal of  
36 this State may to modify the support order and assume continuing,  
37 exclusive jurisdiction over the order. However, if the issuing state is a  
38 foreign jurisdiction that has not enacted a law or established procedures  
39 substantially similar to the procedures under this act, the consent  
40 otherwise required of an individual residing in this State is not required  
41 for the tribunal to assume jurisdiction to modify the child support order.

42 (b) Modification of a registered child support order is subject to the same  
43 requirements, procedures, and defenses that apply to the modification of an order issued

1 by a tribunal of this State, and the order may be enforced and satisfied in the same  
2 manner.

3 (c) A tribunal of this State may not modify any aspect of a child support order that  
4 may not be modified under the law of the issuing state. If two or more tribunals have  
5 issued child support orders for the same obligor and child, the order that controls and  
6 must be so recognized under G.S. 52C-2-207 establishes the aspects of the support order  
7 which are nonmodifiable.

8 (d) On issuance of an order modifying a child support order issued in another state,  
9 a tribunal of this State becomes the tribunal of continuing, exclusive jurisdiction.

10 ~~(e) Within 30 days after issuance of a modified child support order, the party~~  
11 ~~obtaining the modification shall file a certified copy of the order with the issuing tribunal~~  
12 ~~which had continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the earlier order, and in each tribunal in~~  
13 ~~which the party knows that the earlier order has been registered."~~

14 Section 10.13. Article 6 of Chapter 52C of the General Statutes is amended by  
15 adding the following new sections to read:

16 **"§ 52C-6-613. Jurisdiction to modify child support order of another state when**  
17 **individual parties reside in this State.**

18 (a) If all of the parties who are individuals reside in this State and the child does  
19 not reside in the issuing state, a tribunal of this State has jurisdiction to enforce and to  
20 modify the issuing state's child support order in a proceeding to register that order.

21 (b) A tribunal of this State exercising jurisdiction under this section shall apply the  
22 provisions of Articles 1 and 2 of this Chapter, this Article, and the procedural and  
23 substantive law of this State to the proceeding for enforcement or modification. Articles  
24 3, 4, 5, 7, and 8 of this Chapter do not apply.

25 **"§ 52C-6-614. Notice to issuing tribunal of modification.**

26 Within 30 days after issuance of a modified child support order, the party obtaining  
27 the modification shall file a certified copy of the order with the issuing tribunal that had  
28 continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the earlier order, and in each tribunal in which the  
29 party knows the earlier order has been registered. A party who obtains the order and fails  
30 to file a certified copy is subject to appropriate sanctions by a tribunal in which the issue  
31 of failure to file arises. The failure to file does not affect the validity or enforceability of  
32 the modified order of the new tribunal having continuing, exclusive jurisdiction."

33 Section 10.14. The Reviser of Statutes shall cause to be printed separate from  
34 this Part all relevant portions of the official comments to the Uniform Interstate Family  
35 Support Act, as amended, as the Reviser deems appropriate.

## 36 37 **PART 11. MISCELLANEOUS AND EFFECTIVE DATE.**

38 Section 11. The Attorney General shall explore the feasibility of filing suit  
39 against the United States Government to challenge its authority to require states to  
40 conform with one or more of the provisions of Part D of Subchapter IV of the Personal  
41 Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, P.L. 104-193. The  
42 Attorney General shall report findings and recommendations to the 1997 General  
43 Assembly, Regular Session 1998, upon its convening.

1           Section 11.1. The Constitution of North Carolina protects an individual's right  
2 to a trial by jury in paternity actions. The only way to abolish this right is by amendment  
3 to the Constitution of North Carolina ratified by the qualified voters of this State. The  
4 General Assembly finds that because of the small number of jury trials requested in  
5 paternity actions in this State, and because of other procedures currently in place or  
6 authorized under this act, abolishment of the right would not increase the effectiveness  
7 and efficiency of the State's child support enforcement program. Moreover, any net  
8 benefit that might result from abolishing the right is substantially outweighed by the  
9 importance of preserving the right and thereby upholding the fundamental principles of  
10 individual liberty and due process of law. The North Carolina General Assembly,  
11 therefore, directs the Department of Human Resources to apply to the United States  
12 Department of Health and Human Services for an exemption from implementing the  
13 paragraph under 42 U.S.C. § 666(a)(5) requiring procedures providing that the parties to  
14 an action to establish paternity are not entitled to a trial by jury. The Department shall  
15 report to the 1997 General Assembly, Regular Session 1998, upon its convening, on the  
16 status of the application for exemption.

17           Section 11.2. The headings to the Parts of this act are a convenience to the  
18 reader and are for reference only. The headings do not expand, limit, or define the text of  
19 this act.

20           Section 11.3. Except as otherwise provided in this act, this act becomes  
21 effective October 1, 1997 and expires on June 30, 1998.