

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass
Vote: 8 - 0 - 2
Yeas: Barton, Cameron, Krieger, Shields, Smith J., Stiegler, Whisnant, Barker
Nays: 0
Exc.: Garrett, Olson
Prepared By: Bill Taylor, Counsel
Meeting Dates: 2/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Applies the license suspension provisions to all support enforcement matters when child support payments are in arrears, not just ongoing cases.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Program is a federal mandate
- Seventy percent of child support is collected through wage withholding
- Threat of license suspension is very effective against self-employed individuals

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The federal government requires states to revoke and suspend licenses, including driver licenses and occupational licenses, of those who owe child support and can afford to pay but refuse to do so. This requirement is tied to the funds the federal government sends the states for child support. Oregon has enacted provisions that require license suspension for nonpayment of child support. The Support Enforcement Division can enter into a payment schedule or plan with the obligor that allows the person to pay off the debt over time and still keep his or her license. Current Oregon law makes the license revocation provisions applicable to a current judgment to pay monthly child support that is in arrears. It does not apply when the child is no longer receiving child support but arrears are still owed by the obligor to the State of Oregon.