



# Oregon Department of Justice

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## Division of Child Support

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### TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 513 For the Senate Judiciary Committee February 22, 2017

#### Submitted by:

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This testimony is submitted in support of Senate Bill 513, with the -1 amendments.

#### **How This Bill Changes Current Law**

Senate Bill 513 amends ORS 25.650 by removing the requirement that the administrator provide 10 days prior notice to an obligor or obligee that a consumer report will be requested by the administrator of the Oregon Child Support Program. This legislation also expands the circumstances in which the Oregon Department of Justice may request a consumer report for a party to a child support case. Current law allows the Program to request a consumer report only for the purpose of establishing or modifying a support order. The -1 amendments proposed by the Program would expand the authority to request consumer reports for purposes of determining an individual's capacity to make child support payments, determining the appropriate level of such payments, or enforcing a support order, and they would allow the Program to seek reports for anyone whose parentage has been established.

This legislation will increase Oregon Child Support Program access to consumer reporting information, improving the accuracy of child support orders and the Program's ability to collect. Overall operating postage may be reduced negligibly due to the Program no longer having to send notices by certified or registered mail before requesting consumer reports.

#### **Key Points of Legislation**

- Removes requirement to send 10-day notice by certified or registered mail before requesting a consumer report because no longer required by 15 USC 1681b.

- Adds purposes for which the Oregon Child Support Program can request a consumer report as allowed by federal law.
- Updates terminology to refer to “parentage” rather than “paternity” to make consumer reports available for all legal parents regardless of gender.

**Fiscal Impact**

None.

**Fiscal Benefits**

Has potential to slightly reduce cost of certified or registered mail to the Oregon Child Support Program.

**Recommended Action**

The Oregon Department of Justice recommends adoption of the -1 amendments and committee approval of Senate Bill 513, as amended, to improve the accuracy of child support orders and the Child Support Program’s ability to collect child support, to remove a requirement no longer in federal law, and to provide for access to information allowed by federal law.