

STATE and LOCAL FISCAL IMPACT

Drafting Number: LLS 13-0657 **Date:** February 13, 2013

Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. May

Bill Status: House Public Health Care and

Sen. Nicholson Fiscal Analyst: Human Services

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TITLE: CONCERNING CHANGES TO CHILD SUPPORT PROVISIONS.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2013-2014	FY 2014-2015
State Revenue		
State Expenditures	Increase - see State Expenditures section.	
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: January 1, 2014.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2013-2014: None required.		
Local Government Impact: Minimal. See Local Government Impact section.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill makes several changes to the requirements and calculation of child support payments. Among its many provisions, the bill:

- increases the upper limit of monthly payments from \$20,000 to \$30,000;
- applies the minimum order formula to parents with incomes below \$1,100 per month, rather than \$850 per month as under current law;
- revises the minimum child support amount for certain low-income families to between \$50 and \$150 per month, depending on the number of children;
- revises the formula for calculating the low-income adjustment; and
- clarifies when certain types of incomes, such as retirement payments, social security disability benefits, and self-employment and business income may be included in income calculations.

State Expenditures

This bill will increase workload for state courts and the Department of Human Services by a minimal amount, as described below. No additional appropriations are required for either department.

Judicial Department. State courts will be required to update the automated system for calculating child support payments and update information resources for the public. This workload increase is minimal.

Department of Human Services. Similarly, the Department of Human Services will be required to review and update its guideline manual and train county workers. This change will result in a one-time increase of approximately 280 hours of work. However, because the department already has a General Professional IV whose responsibilities are to update guidelines and provide training, no additional staff resources are required. In addition, the Automated Child Support Enforcement System (ACES) will require about 300 hours of programming changes to update the current formula and expand the schedule of child support obligations. The department already has programming resources available through existing appropriations and intends to include the changes required under HB13-1209 in its FY 2013-14 workplan.

Local Government Impact

County workers in departments of social services will require training on the changes required under HB13-1209. As training already occurs on a periodic basis, this bill is not expected to increase costs for local governments.

Departments Contacted

Counties Human Services Judicial Revenue