
By: Delegate Workman

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 1996

Assigned to: Judiciary

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Support - Recommendations by a Master - Escrow Accounts**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a court to either direct a final order of a master's
4 recommendation for an increase in a child support award or make a temporary
5 order directing the party required to pay the increase to pay a certain amount into
6 an escrow account until such time as the court directs a final order; and generally
7 relating to modification of child support awards and recommendations by a master.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article - Family Law
10 Section 12-104
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (1991 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article - Family Law**

16 12-104.

17 (a) The court may modify a child support award subsequent to the filing of a
18 motion for modification and upon a showing of a material change of circumstance.

19 (b) The court may not retroactively modify a child support award prior to the date
20 of the filing of the motion for modification.

21 (C) IF A MASTER PREPARES A WRITTEN RECOMMENDATION FOR A
22 MODIFICATION OF A CHILD SUPPORT AWARD THAT INCREASES THE AMOUNT OF
23 CHILD SUPPORT, AND EXCEPTIONS ARE FILED BY THE PARTY REQUIRED TO PAY
24 THE INCREASE, THE COURT SHALL, WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE FILING OF THE
25 EXCEPTIONS, EITHER:

26 (1) DIRECT THE ENTRY OF AN ORDER OR JUDGMENT; OR

27 (2) ENTER A TEMPORARY ORDER REQUIRING THAT THE AMOUNT BY
28 WHICH THE CHILD SUPPORT AWARD WAS INCREASED BE PAID INTO AN ESCROW
29 ACCOUNT ESTABLISHED BY THE COURT UNTIL THE COURT DIRECTS THE ENTRY OF

HOUSE BILL 559

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1 AN ORDER OF THE MASTER'S RECOMMENDATION, INCLUDING AN ORDER FOR THE
2 DISPOSITION OF THE ESCROW ACCOUNT.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 1996.