D4 CF HB 218 (PRE-FILED)

By: Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee (By Request - Departmental - Human Services)

Requested: October 12, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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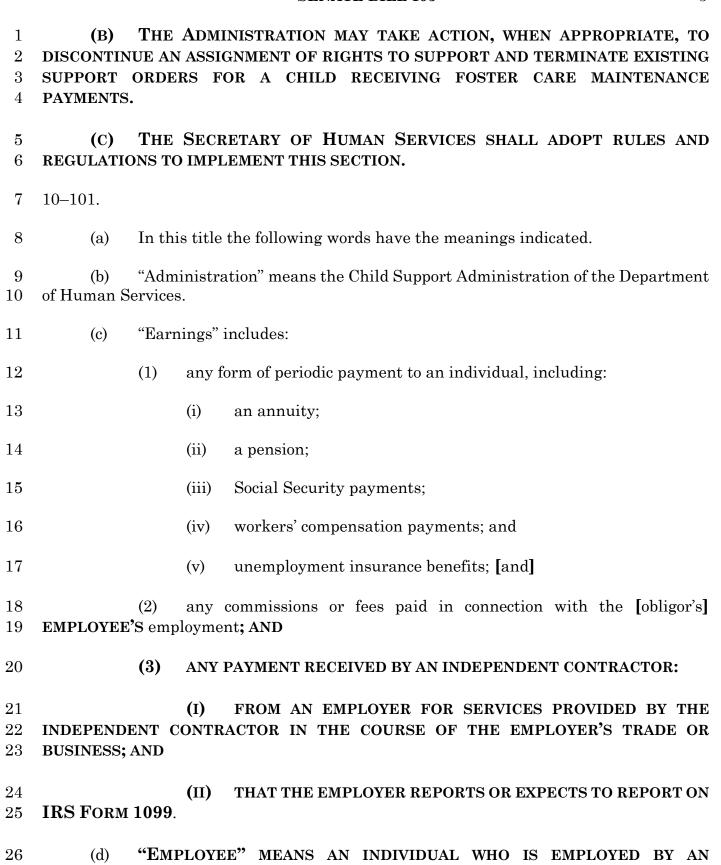
Family Law - Child Support

FOR the purpose of altering provisions relating to the commencement of a proceeding to hold a person in contempt of court for the person's default in payment of periodic child or spousal support under the terms of a court order and provisions relating to the commencement of a contempt proceeding for failure to make a payment of child or spousal support under a court order; authorizing the Child Support Administration to take action to secure an assignment to the State of any rights to support on behalf of a child receiving foster care maintenance payments under certain circumstances; expanding provisions relating to the interception of lottery prizes for the payment of child support arrearages to include the interception of prizes from sports wagering or a fantasy competition; altering provisions relating to the suspension of a child support obligor's license or privilege to drive for failure to pay child support; altering provisions relating to the duties of health occupations boards and the State Emergency Services Board to collect and maintain certain information from license applicants; establishing that child support arrears constitute a lien by operation of law against the net recovery of a personal injury award up to the maximum lien amount and specifying related procedures; altering certain provisions relating to earnings withholding; requiring an independent contractor's employer to submit certain information to the Administration under certain circumstances; altering provisions relating to the modification of a child support award; requiring a court to terminate a child support order that was previously established or assigned for a child receiving a foster care maintenance payment under certain circumstances; altering provisions relating to the determination of child support under the child support guidelines; and generally relating to child support.

27 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

5lr0339

1	Article – Courts and Judicial Proceedings						
2	Section 5–111						
3	Annotated Code of Maryland						
4	(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
5	BY adding to						
6	Article – Family Law						
7	Section 5–525.3, 10–119.4, 10–139, and 12–104.2						
8	Annotated Code of Maryland						
9	(2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
0	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,						
1	Article – Family Law						
12 13	Section 10–101, 10–102, 10–108(c), 10–113.1, 10–119, 10–119.3(b), 10–122, 12–104, 12–201(c) and (n), 12–202(a), and 12–204(a)						
4	Annotated Code of Maryland						
15	(2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
16	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,						
7	Article - Transportation						
18	Section 16–203						
9	Annotated Code of Maryland						
20	(2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)						
21	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND.						
22	That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:						
23	Article - Courts and Judicial Proceedings						
24	5–111.						
25 26	A proceeding to hold a person in contempt of court for the person's default in payment of periodic child or spousal support under the terms of a court order shall be commenced						
27 28	within [3] 7 years of the date each installment of support ORIGINALLY became due [and remained unpaid].						
29	Article - Family Law						
30	5-525.3.						
31	(A) ONLY IN LIMITED CIRCUMSTANCES, WHERE THE ADMINISTRATION						
32	FINDS IT APPROPRIATE, MAY ACTION BE TAKEN TO SECURE AN ASSIGNMENT TO THE						
33	STATE OF ANY RIGHTS TO SUPPORT ON BEHALF OF A CHILD RECEIVING FOSTER						
34	CARE MAINTENANCE PAYMENTS UNDER THIS PART III OF THIS SUBTITLE.						



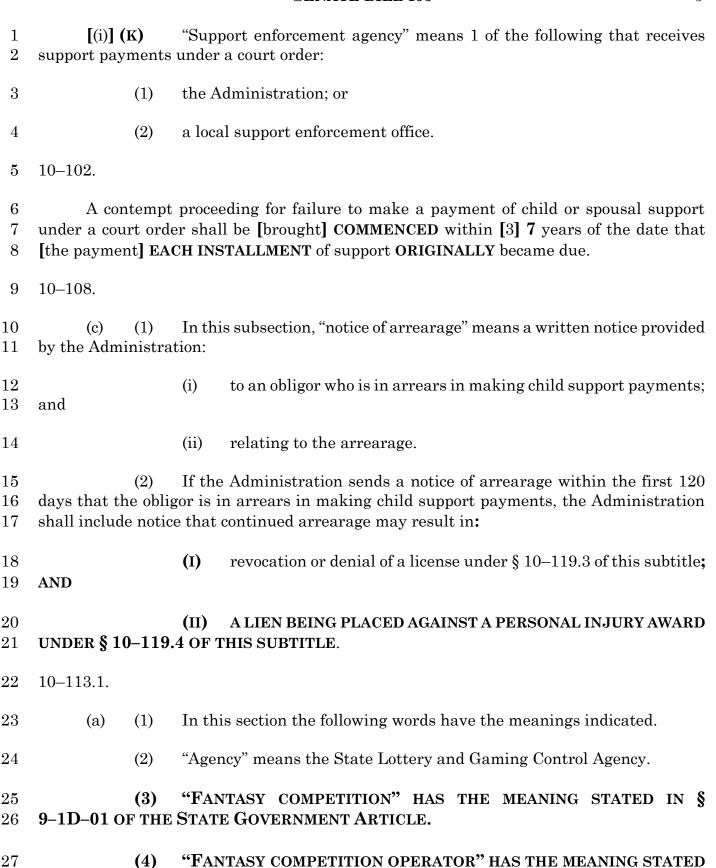
EMPLOYER FOR A WAGE OR OTHER COMPENSATION IN THE TRADE OR BUSINESS OF

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THE EMPLOYER.

$\frac{1}{2}$	(E) (1) EMPLOYEE .	"Employer" means any person who is paying earnings to an [obligor]
3	(2)	"Employer" includes:
4		(I) a governmental entity; AND
5 6 7 8		(II) A PERSON WHO IS PAYING EARNINGS TO AN INDEPENDENT OR SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE COURSE OF THE EMPLOYER'S TRADE THAT THE EMPLOYER REPORTS OR EXPECTS TO REPORT ON IRS
9	(F) "IN	DEPENDENT CONTRACTOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO:
10 11	(1) EMPLOYER'S TR	PROVIDES SERVICES TO AN EMPLOYER IN THE COURSE OF THE ADE OR BUSINESS; AND
12 13	(2) REPORTS OR EX	RECEIVES EARNINGS FROM AN EMPLOYER THAT THE EMPLOYER PECTS TO REPORT ON IRS FORM 1099.
14 15	[(e)] (G) responsible for su	"Local support enforcement office" means 1 of the following that is apport enforcement:
16	(1)	a county agency; or
17	(2)	a component of the circuit court for a county.
18	[(f)] (H)	(1) "Obligee" means any person who is entitled to receive support.
19	(2)	"Obligee" includes a state.
20 21	[(g)] (I) court order.	"Obligor" means an individual who is required to pay support under a
22	[(h)] (J)	"Support" includes:
23	(1)	child support;
24	(2)	spousal support;
25	(3)	support of destitute adult children; and
26	(4)	support of destitute parents.



IN § 9–1D–01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

(3)

- "SPORTS WAGERING" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 9-1E-01 OF 1 **(5)** 2 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE. "SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE" HAS THE MEANING STATED 3 IN § 9-1E-01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE. 4 5 (II) "SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE" INCLUDES: 6 1. A MOBILE SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, AS DEFINED IN § 9-1E-01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; 7 8 2. AN ONLINE SPORTS WAGERING OPERATOR, AS 9 DEFINED IN § 9-1E-01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; AND 10 3. A SPORTS WAGERING FACILITY LICENSEE, DEFINED IN § 9-1E-01 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE. 11 12 "Video lottery facility" has the meaning stated in § 9-1A-01 of [(3)] **(7)** the State Government Article. 13 [(4)] (8) "Video lottery operation licensee" has the meaning stated in § 14 9-1A-01 of the State Government Article. 15 16 The Administration may certify to the Agency the name of any obligor who is (b) in arrears in the amount of \$150 or more if: 17 18 the Administration has accepted an assignment of support under § 5-312(b)(2) of the Human Services Article; or 19 20 the recipient of support payments has filed an application for support (2)enforcement services with the Administration. 2122 (c) The certification shall contain: 23 (1) the full name of the obligor, and any other names known to be used by the obligor; 24the Social Security number of the obligor; and 25(2)
- 27 (d) If an obligor who has been certified as an obligor wins a lottery prize to be paid 28 by check directly by the Agency, the Agency shall send a notice to the obligor that:

the amount of the arrearage.

- 1 (1) the obligor has won a prize to be paid by check directly by the [State 2 Lottery and Gaming Control] Agency;
- 3 (2) the [State Lottery and Gaming Control] Agency has received 4 certification from the [Child Support] Administration of the obligor's child support 5 arrearage in the amount specified;
- 6 (3) State law requires the [State Lottery and Gaming Control] Agency to 7 withhold the prize and to pay it towards the obligor's support arrearage;
- 8 (4) the obligor has 15 days to appeal to the Administration if the obligor 9 disputes the existence or the amount of the arrearage; and
- 10 (5) on interception of the prize, the [State Lottery and Gaming Control]
 11 Agency will transfer the prize or the part of the prize that equals the obligor's child support
 12 arrearage to the Administration.
- 13 (e) If an obligor who owes child support and has been certified as an obligor wins 14 a prize at a video lottery facility [requiring], FROM SPORTS WAGERING, OR IN A 15 FANTASY COMPETITION, AND THAT PRIZE REQUIRES the issuance of Internal Revenue 16 Service form W–2G or a substantially equivalent form [by a video lottery operation 17 licensee], the video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, OR 18 FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR shall provide a notice to the obligor that:
- 19 (1) the obligor has won a prize to be paid by cash or check directly by the 20 video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, OR FANTASY 21 COMPETITION OPERATOR;
- 22 (2) the [State Lottery and Gaming Control] Agency has received 23 certification from the [Child Support] Administration of the obligor's child support 24 arrearage in the amount specified;
- 25 (3) State law requires the video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS 26 WAGERING LICENSEE, OR FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR to withhold the prize 27 and to pay it towards the obligor's child support arrearage;
- 28 (4) the obligor has 15 days to appeal to the Administration if the obligor disputes the existence or the amount of the child support arrearage; and
- 30 (5) on interception of the prize, the video lottery operation licensee, 31 SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, OR FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR will transfer 32 the prize or the part of the prize that equals the obligor's child support arrearage to the 33 Administration.

- 1 The Agency [or the], video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS (f) (1) 2 WAGERING LICENSEE, OR FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR shall: 3 withhold and transfer all or part of the prize up to the amount of 4 the arrearage to the Administration; and 5 (ii) pay the excess to the obligor. 6 The Agency [and a], video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS (2)7 WAGERING LICENSEE, AND FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR shall honor 8 interception requests in the following order: 9 (i) an interception request under this section; an interception request under § 11-618 of the Criminal 10 (ii) Procedure Article: and 11 12 an interception request under § 3–307 of the State Finance and 13 Procurement Article. 14 On receipt of a notice from the Agency [or], video lottery operation (1) 15 licensee, SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, OR FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR, an 16 obligor who disputes the existence or amount of the arrearage may appeal the transfer. 17 If no appeal is filed within 15 days, the Administration may retain the (2)18 withheld prize. 19 If the obligor appeals the transfer, after a hearing by the (3)20 Administration, the withheld prize shall be: 21 (i) paid to the obligor; 22 retained by the Administration; or (ii) 23 partly paid to the obligor and partly retained by the (iii) 24Administration, in the amounts specified.
- 25 (h) The Secretary of Human Services and the Director of the Agency may jointly 26 adopt regulations to implement this section.
- 27 (i) A video lottery operation licensee, SPORTS WAGERING LICENSEE, OR 28 FANTASY COMPETITION OPERATOR may not be held liable for an act or omission taken 29 in good faith to comply substantially with the requirements of this section.
- 30 10-119.

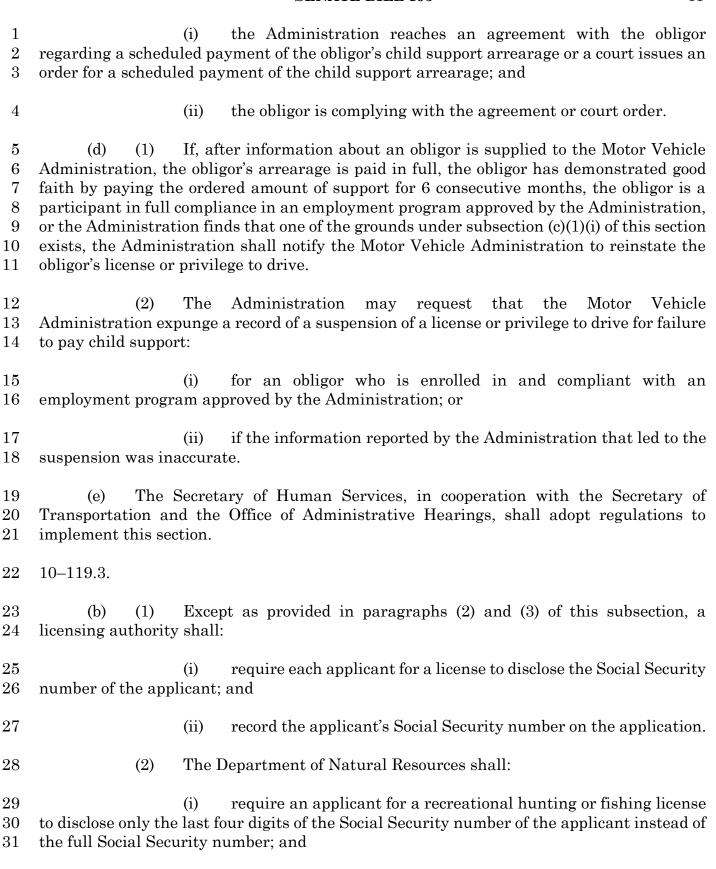
1 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated. 2 "License" has the meaning stated in § 11–128 of the Transportation (2) 3 Article. Vehicle Vehicle 4 "Motor Administration" the Motor (3)means Administration of the Department of Transportation. 5 6 Subject to the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, the (b) (1) 7 Administration may notify the Motor Vehicle Administration of an obligor with a noncommercial license who is 60 days or more out of compliance, or an obligor with a 8 9 commercial license who is 120 days or more out of compliance, with the most recent order 10 of the court in making child support payments if: 11 (i) the Administration has accepted an assignment of support under § 5–312(b)(2) of the Human Services Article; or 12 13 (ii) the recipient of support payments has filed an application for 14 support enforcement services with the Administration. Upon notification by the Administration under this subsection, the 15 16 Motor Vehicle Administration: 17 (i) shall suspend the obligor's license or privilege to drive in the 18 State; and 19 (ii) may issue a work-restricted license or work-restricted privilege 20 to drive in the State in accordance with § 16–203 of the Transportation Article. 21(c) (1) Before supplying any information to the Motor Vehicle Administration 22under this section, the Administration shall: 23send written notice of the proposed action to the obligor, including notice of the obligor's right to request an investigation on any of the following 2425grounds: 26 1. the information regarding the reported arrearage is 27inaccurate; 28 2. THE OBLIGOR'S INCOME IS NOT GREATER THAN 250% 29 OF THE 2024 FEDERAL POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR AN INDIVIDUAL (\$37,650 PER 30 YEAR), UNLESS THE OBLIGOR WAS JUDICIALLY DETERMINED TO BE VOLUNTARILY

IMPOVERISHED UNDER § 12–204 OF THIS ARTICLE AT THE TIME THE MOST RECENT

CHILD SUPPORT ORDER WAS ENTERED;

the Motor Vehicle Administration if:

1 3. suspension of the obligor's license or privilege to drive 2 would be an impediment to the obligor's current or potential employment; or 3 [3.] 4. suspension of the obligor's license or privilege to drive 4 would place an undue hardship on the obligor because of the obligor's: 5 A. documented disability resulting in a verified inability to 6 work; or 7 В. inability to comply with the court order; and 8 (ii) give the obligor a reasonable opportunity to request an 9 investigation of the proposed action of the Administration. 10 (2)(i) Upon receipt of a request for investigation from the obligor, the 11 Administration shall conduct an investigation to determine if any of the grounds under 12 paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection exist. (ii) The Administration shall: 13 14 1. send a copy of the obligor's request for an investigation to 15 the obligee by first-class mail; 16 2. give the obligee a reasonable opportunity to respond; and 17 3. consider the obligee's response. 18 Upon completion of the investigation, the Administration shall (iii) 19 notify the obligor of the results of the investigation and the obligor's right to appeal to the 20 Office of Administrative Hearings. 21An appeal under this section shall be conducted in accordance 22 with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article. 23An appeal shall be made in writing and shall be received by the (ii) 24 Office of Administrative Hearings within 20 days after the notice to the obligor of the 25 results of the investigation. 26 If, after the investigation or appeal to the Office of Administrative 27Hearings, the Administration finds that one of the grounds under paragraph (1)(i) of this 28 subsection exists, the Administration may not send any information about the obligor to 29 the Motor Vehicle Administration. 30 The Administration may not send any information about an obligor to (5)



record the applicant's partial Social Security number on the

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application.

(ii)

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- 1 Each health occupations board and the State Emergency Services (3)2 Board shall: 3 (i) require each applicant for a license to: 4 1. disclose the APPLICANT'S Social Security number [or], IF 5 THE APPLICANT HAS ONE; 6 IF THE APPLICANT DOES NOT HAVE A SOCIAL 7 SECURITY NUMBER, DISCLOSE THE Individual Taxpayer Identification Number of the 8 applicant; or 9 [2.] **3.** [provide alternative documentation as permitted by the 10 Department of Health and Human Services under Section 466(a)(13) of the Social Security Act] IF THE APPLICANT DOES NOT HAVE A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR AN 11 INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER, PROVIDE A SWORN STATEMENT, 12 SIGNED UNDER THE PENALTY OF PERJURY, THAT THE APPLICANT DOES NOT HAVE 13 A SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION 14 15 NUMBER, ALONG WITH THE LICENSE APPLICATION; and 16 (ii) [record] MAINTAIN the applicant's Social Security number, 17 Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, or [alternative documentation] AFFIDAVIT provided under item (i) of this paragraph in the application file. 18 19 10–119.4. 20 IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS (A) **(1)** 21INDICATED. "AWARD RECIPIENT" MEANS A PERSON WHO RECEIVES OR IS TO 22 **(2)** 23 RECEIVE A PERSONAL INJURY AWARD. "INTERCEPT DATE" MEANS THE DATE THAT THE AWARD 24 25RECIPIENT IS NOTIFIED THAT MONEY IS BEING WITHHELD FOR SUPPORT ARREARS 26 FROM A PERSONAL INJURY AWARD. "MAXIMUM LIEN AMOUNT" REFERS TO THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF 27
- ACCORDANCE WITH § 11–504(I)(2) OF THE COURTS ARTICLE. 30 "NET RECOVERY" MEANS THE SUM OF MONEY TO BE DISTRIBUTED **(5)** 31 TO AN AWARD RECIPIENT AFTER DEDUCTION OF ATTORNEY'S FEES AND EXPENSES,

A NET RECOVERY WHICH IS SUBJECT TO EXECUTION FOR SUPPORT ARREARS IN

32 MEDICAL BILLS, AND THE SATISFACTION OF ANY LIENS OR SUBROGATION CLAIMS

- 1 ARISING OUT OF THE SICKNESS, ACCIDENT, INJURY, OR DEATH THAT RESULTED IN
- 2 THE PERSONAL INJURY AWARD, INCLUDING THOSE ARISING UNDER:
- 3 (I) THE MEDICARE SECONDARY PAYER ACT, 42 U.S.C. §
- 4 **1395**Y;
- 5 (II) A PROGRAM OF THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
- 6 FOR WHICH A RIGHT OF SUBROGATION EXISTS UNDER §§ 15–120 AND 15–121.1 OF
- 7 THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE;
- 8 (III) AN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN SUBJECT TO THE FEDERAL
- 9 EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974; OR
- 10 (IV) A HEALTH INSURANCE CONTRACT.
- 11 (6) "PAYING AGENT" MEANS THE PERSON OR ENTITY RESPONSIBLE
- 12 FOR DISTRIBUTION OF THE PERSONAL INJURY AWARD AND INCLUDES:
- 13 (I) THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S ATTORNEY, IF AN ATTORNEY
- 14 REPRESENTED THE AWARD RECIPIENT FOR THE SICKNESS, ACCIDENT, INJURY, OR
- 15 DEATH THAT RESULTED IN THE PERSONAL INJURY AWARD; OR
- 16 (II) IF THE AWARD RECIPIENT WAS NOT REPRESENTED BY AN
- 17 ATTORNEY, THE EMPLOYER, PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURER, OR
- 18 SELF-INSURER WHO IS TO PAY THE PERSONAL INJURY AWARD TO THE AWARD
- 19 RECIPIENT.
- 20 (7) "PERSONAL INJURY AWARD" MEANS A LUMP SUM PAYABLE TO AN
- 21 AWARD RECIPIENT FOR SICKNESS, ACCIDENT, INJURY, OR DEATH OF ANY PERSON,
- 22 INCLUDING COMPENSATION FOR LOSS OF FUTURE EARNINGS, AND INCLUDES
- 23 MONEY PAID ON ACCOUNT OF ANY CLAIM, SUIT, JUDGMENT, ARBITRATION,
- 24 SETTLEMENT, COMPROMISE, INSURANCE, ANNUITY, BENEFIT, COMPENSATION, OR
- 25 RELIEF.

- 26 (B) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERSONAL INJURY AWARD DUE TO
- 27 AN AWARD RECIPIENT WHO IS UNDER THE AGE OF 12 YEARS.
- 28 (C) (1) CHILD SUPPORT ARREARS SHALL BE A LIEN BY OPERATION OF
- 29 LAW AGAINST THE NET RECOVERY OF A PERSONAL INJURY AWARD UP TO THE
- 30 MAXIMUM LIEN AMOUNT.
 - (2) THE LIEN IS PERFECTED ON:

- 1 (I) THE ADMINISTRATION'S ENTRY OF THE LIEN INFORMATION
- 2 INTO AN AUTOMATED NETWORK OR DATA MATCH PROCESS COMMONLY USED IN THE
- 3 INSURANCE INDUSTRY; OR
- 4 (II) WRITTEN NOTICE TO THE PAYING AGENT.
- 5 (D) (1) IF THE AWARD RECIPIENT OWES CHILD SUPPORT ARREARS, ON
- 6 NOTICE BY THE ADMINISTRATION, THE PAYING AGENT SHALL:
- 7 (I) WITHHOLD THE LESSER OF THE AMOUNT OF THE ARREARS
- 8 OR THE MAXIMUM LIEN AMOUNT AND PROMPTLY FORWARD THE WITHHELD AMOUNT
- 9 TO THE ADMINISTRATION TO BE APPLIED TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S SUPPORT
- 10 ARREARAGE;
- 11 (II) PROMPTLY PAY ANY REMAINING PORTION OF THE NET
- 12 RECOVERY NOT SUBJECT TO OTHER LIENS TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT; AND
- 13 (III) SEND A NOTICE TO THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE AWARD
- 14 RECIPIENT OF:
- 15 1. THE AMOUNT PAID TO THE ADMINISTRATION; AND
- 16 2. THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S RIGHT TO CHALLENGE THE
- 17 WITHHOLDING UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 18 (2) THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S EXERCISE OF THE RIGHT TO
- 19 CHALLENGE THE WITHHOLDING DOES NOT RELIEVE THE PAYING AGENT OF THE
- 20 DUTY TO FORWARD PAYMENT TO THE ADMINISTRATION.
- 21 (3) THE PAYING AGENT MAY NOT CHARGE THE ADMINISTRATION A
- 22 FEE FOR ITS ACTIONS UNDER THIS SECTION.
- 23 (4) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL PROVIDE A BASIS FOR A PAYING
- 24 AGENT TO DELAY THE PAYMENT OF THE REMAINING PORTION OF THE NET
- 25 RECOVERY TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT.
- 26 (E) (1) (I) UPON RECEIPT OF THE FUNDS FROM THE PAYING AGENT,
- 27 THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL APPLY THE FUNDS TO THE OBLIGOR'S ARREARS.
- 28 (II) IF THE OBLIGOR HAS MORE THAN ONE CHILD SUPPORT
- 29 CASE WITH ARREARS, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL ALLOCATE THE AMOUNT
- 30 RECEIVED AMONG ONE OR MORE OF THE OBLIGOR'S CASES AS DETERMINED
- 31 APPROPRIATE BY THE ADMINISTRATION.

- 1 (2) IF THE ADMINISTRATION DETERMINES THAT THE AMOUNT IT 2 RECEIVED EXCEEDS THE AMOUNT OF THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S ARREARS, THE 3 ADMINISTRATION SHALL PAY THE EXCESS AMOUNT TO THE OBLIGOR.
- 4 (F) (1) AN AWARD RECIPIENT MAY ASK THE ADMINISTRATION TO 5 INVESTIGATE THE WITHHOLDING BY FILING A WRITTEN REQUEST FOR 6 INVESTIGATION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION SETTING FORTH THE REASONS FOR 7 THE CHALLENGE.
- 8 (2) THE REQUEST MAY BE BASED SOLELY ON THE FOLLOWING:
- 9 (I) THERE IS NO ARREARAGE;
- 10 (II) THE AMOUNT OF THE ARREARAGE IS INCORRECT; OR
- 11 (III) THE AWARD RECIPIENT IS NOT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO OWES
- 12 THE ARREARS.
- 13 (3) (I) THE REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY 14 THE ADMINISTRATION WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE INTERCEPT DATE.
- 15 (II) IF A TIMELY REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION IS NOT
- 16 RECEIVED BY THE ADMINISTRATION, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY RETAIN THE
- 17 INTERCEPTED FUNDS FOR APPLICATION TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S ARREARS.
- 18 (4) AN AWARD RECIPIENT MAY WITHDRAW A REQUEST FOR
- 19 INVESTIGATION BY SUBMITTING A NOTICE OF THE WITHDRAWAL TO THE
- 20 ADMINISTRATION.
- 21 (G) (1) ON RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FOR INVESTIGATION FROM THE
- 22 AWARD RECIPIENT, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION.
- 23 (2) (I) IF, AFTER THE INVESTIGATION, THE ADMINISTRATION
- 24 FINDS THAT THERE IS NO ARREARAGE, OR THAT THE AWARD RECIPIENT IS NOT THE
- 25 INDIVIDUAL WHO OWES THE ARREARS, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL REFUND THE
- 20 INDIVIDUAL WITO OWED THE ARREADS, THE TEMINISTRATION SHALL REPORT THE
- 26 FULL AMOUNT OF THE FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE PAYING AGENT TO THE AWARD
- 27 RECIPIENT.
- 28 (II) IF, AFTER THE INVESTIGATION, THE ADMINISTRATION
- 29 FINDS THAT THERE IS AN ARREARAGE, BUT IT IS LESS THAN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED
- 30 FROM THE PAYING AGENT, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL CORRECT ITS RECORDS
- 31 AND RELEASE THE EXCESS AMOUNT TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT.

1	III)	IF,	AFTER	THE	INVESTIGATION,	THE	ADMINISTRATION
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- 2 FINDS THAT THE AWARD RECIPIENT OWES ARREARS IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO OR
- 3 GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED FROM THE PAYING AGENT, THE
- 4 ADMINISTRATION SHALL RETAIN THE INTERCEPTED FUNDS FOR APPLICATION TO
- 5 THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S ARREARS.
- 6 (3) (I) ON COMPLETION OF THE INVESTIGATION, THE
- 7 ADMINISTRATION SHALL SEND THE AWARD RECIPIENT A NOTICE BY FIRST-CLASS
- 8 MAIL OF THE OUTCOME OF THE INVESTIGATION.
- 9 (II) THE NOTICE SHALL INFORM THE AWARD RECIPIENT OF THE
- 10 RIGHT TO APPEAL THE ADMINISTRATION'S DECISION TO THE OFFICE OF
- ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF THE NOTICE.
- 12 (H) (1) IF AN AWARD RECIPIENT WHO TIMELY REQUESTED AN
- 13 INVESTIGATION DISAGREES WITH THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION, THE
- 14 AWARD RECIPIENT MAY APPEAL TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS.
- 15 (2) AN APPEAL TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS MAY
- 16 BE BASED SOLELY ON THE FOLLOWING:
- 17 (I) THERE IS NO ARREARAGE;
- 18 (II) THE AMOUNT OF THE ARREARAGE IS INCORRECT; OR
- 19 (III) THE AWARD RECIPIENT IS NOT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO OWES
- 20 THE ARREARS.
- 21 (3) AN APPEAL TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
- 22 AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
- 23 TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
- 24 (4) AN AWARD RECIPIENT MAY WITHDRAW AN APPEAL REQUEST BY
- 25 SUBMITTING A NOTICE OF THE WITHDRAWAL TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE
- 26 HEARINGS BEFORE THE HEARING DATE.
- 27 (5) (I) AFTER THE COMPLETION OF AN APPEAL, IF THE OFFICE OF
- 28 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FINDS THAT THERE IS NO ARREARAGE, OR THAT THE
- 29 AWARD RECIPIENT IS NOT THE INDIVIDUAL WHO OWES THE ARREARS, THE
- 30 ADMINISTRATION SHALL REFUND THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE FUNDS RECEIVED
- 31 FROM THE PAYING AGENT TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT.

- 1 (II) AFTER THE COMPLETION OF AN APPEAL, IF THE OFFICE OF
- 2 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FINDS THAT THERE IS AN ARREARAGE BUT IT IS LESS
- 3 THAN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED FROM THE PAYING AGENT, THE ADMINISTRATION
- 4 SHALL CORRECT ITS RECORDS AND RELEASE THE EXCESS AMOUNT TO THE AWARD
- 5 RECIPIENT.
- 6 (III) AFTER THE COMPLETION OF AN APPEAL, IF THE OFFICE OF
- 7 ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FINDS THAT THE AWARD RECIPIENT OWES ARREARS IN
- 8 AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO OR GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT RECEIVED FROM THE
- 9 PAYING AGENT, THE ADMINISTRATION SHALL RETAIN THE INTERCEPTED FUNDS
- 10 FOR APPLICATION TO THE AWARD RECIPIENT'S ARREARS.
- 11 (6) IF THE AWARD RECIPIENT DOES NOT FILE A TIMELY APPEAL TO
- 12 THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS, THE ADMINISTRATION MAY RETAIN
- 13 THE FULL PAYMENT FROM THE PAYING AGENT FOR APPLICATION TO THE AWARD
- 14 RECIPIENT'S ARREARS.
- 15 (I) (1) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY UTILIZE THE PROCEDURES
- 16 ESTABLISHED IN THIS SECTION EXCLUSIVELY TO COLLECT DELINQUENT CHILD
- 17 SUPPORT.
- 18 (2) This section may not be construed to limit or prohibit
- 19 THE ADMINISTRATION FROM COLLECTING DELINQUENT CHILD SUPPORT IN ANY
- 20 OTHER MANNER AUTHORIZED BY LAW.
- 21 (J) (1) A PAYING AGENT WHO, IN GOOD FAITH, MAKES A DISTRIBUTION
- 22 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION SHALL BE IMMUNE FROM ANY CIVIL,
- 23 CRIMINAL, OR ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES FOR MAKING AN ERRONEOUS
- 24 DISTRIBUTION TO THE ADMINISTRATION.
- 25 (2) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL GIVE RISE TO A CLAIM OR
- 26 CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST A PAYING AGENT BY ANY PERSON WHO CLAIMS TO BE
- 27 THE INTENDED OBLIGEE OF THE OUTSTANDING LIEN FOR SUPPORT.
- 28 (K) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO
- 29 CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.
- 30 10–122.
- 31 (a) The amount of the earnings withholding shall:
- 32 (1) be enough to pay the CURRENT AND ONGOING support and any
- 33 arrearage included in the payments required by the support order; and

- 1 (2) include any arrearage accrued since the support order.
- 2 (b) (1) (i) When arrearages under subsection (a)(2) of this section are part of an earnings withholding order or earnings withholding notice, the total arrearage withheld shall be in one lump—sum payment or apportioned over a period of time.
- 5 (ii) The amount of the arrearage withheld under subparagraph (i) of 6 this paragraph shall be determined by the tribunal or, in a case in which the 7 Administration is providing support services, by the Administration.
- 8 (2) The amount of arrears under subsection (a)(2) of this section 9 apportioned to each payment shall be at least \$1 but not more than 25% of the current 10 support payment.
- 11 (3) IF ARREARS REMAIN DUE AND OWING AFTER ALL CHILDREN WHO
 12 ARE THE SUBJECT OF A SUPPORT ORDER HAVE BECOME EMANCIPATED, EARNINGS
 13 WITHHOLDING SHALL CONTINUE AT THE RATE ESTABLISHED BEFORE THE
 14 EMANCIPATION, WITH THE FULL AMOUNT WITHHELD TO BE APPLIED TO THE
 15 EXISTING ARREARAGE UNTIL THE ARREARS ARE PAID IN FULL OR UNTIL A COURT
 16 MODIFIES THE REPAYMENT AMOUNT.
- 17 (c) If there is more than one earnings withholding order or earnings withholding notice against a single obligor, the Administration shall allocate amounts available for withholding, giving priority to current support, up to the limits imposed by the federal Consumer Credit Protection Act.
- 21 **10–139.**
- 22 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "DATE OF EMPLOYMENT" MEANS THE DATE ON WHICH 23 AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR COMMENCES PROVIDING SERVICES FOR AN 24 EMPLOYER.
- 25 (B) SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, 26 WITHIN 20 DAYS AFTER AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR BEGINS EMPLOYMENT, THE 27 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR'S EMPLOYER SHALL SUBMIT TO THE 28 ADMINISTRATION:
- 29 (1) THE SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OF THE INDEPENDENT 30 CONTRACTOR, OR IF THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR DOES NOT HAVE A SOCIAL 31 SECURITY NUMBER, THE INDIVIDUAL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE 32 INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR;
- 33 (2) THE NAME OF THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR;
- 34 (3) THE ADDRESS OF THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR;

1	(4) THE DATE OF EMPLOYMENT;
2	(5) THE EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS;
3 4	(6) THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR'S RATE OF COMPENSATION OR EARNINGS;
5 6	(7) A STATEMENT INDICATING WHETHER THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR HAS HEALTH INSURANCE PROVIDED BY THE EMPLOYER; AND
7 8	(8) THE FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF THE EMPLOYER.
9 10	(C) (1) THE EMPLOYER SHALL REPORT INFORMATION REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION:
11	(I) BY MAIL;
12	(II) MAGNETICALLY OR ELECTRONICALLY; OR
13 14	(III) BY OTHER MEANS AS DETERMINED BY THE ADMINISTRATION.
15 16 17	(2) If an employer chooses to transmit data magnetically or electronically at a rate of twice per month, the reports shall be submitted not less than 12 days or more than 16 days apart.
18	(D) (1) AN EMPLOYER THAT FAILS TO REPORT AS REQUIRED SHALL BE:
19 20	(I) GIVEN A WRITTEN WARNING FOR THE FIRST VIOLATION;
21 22 23 24 25	(II) SUBJECT TO A CIVIL PENALTY OF \$20 FOR EACH MONTH IN WHICH A SUBSEQUENT VIOLATION OCCURS, OR \$500 IF THE FAILURE IS THE RESULT OF A CONSPIRACY BETWEEN THE EMPLOYER AND THE INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR TO NOT SUPPLY THE REQUIRED REPORT OR TO SUPPLY A FALSE OR INCOMPLETE REPORT, UNLESS THE ADMINISTRATION WAIVES THE PENALTY FOR CAUSE.
26	(2) ALL VIOLATIONS BY THE SAME EMPLOYING UNIT OCCURRING IN A

SINGLE MONTH SHALL BE CONSIDERED A SINGLE VIOLATION.

- 1 (E) (1) AN ASSESSMENT UNDER THIS SECTION IS FINAL UNLESS, WITHIN 2 15 DAYS AFTER THE MAILING OF THE ASSESSMENT, THE EMPLOYER APPLIES TO THE
- 3 ADMINISTRATION FOR A HEARING.
- 4 (2) THE ADMINISTRATION MAY FORWARD THE APPLICATION TO THE 5 OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR ADJUDICATION.
- 6 (F) AN EMPLOYER THAT IN GOOD FAITH REPORTS INFORMATION TO THE 7 ADMINISTRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION IS NOT LIABLE FOR THE 8 DISCLOSURE UNDER STATE LAW.
- 9 (G) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN SERVICES MAY ADOPT RULES AND 10 REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.
- 11 12–104.
- 12 (a) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, THE
 13 court may modify a child support award subsequent to the filing of a [motion] PETITION
 14 for modification and upon a showing of a material change of circumstance.
- 15 (b) The court may not retroactively modify a child support award prior to the date 16 of the filing of the [motion] **PETITION** for modification.
- 17 (c) If a party becomes incarcerated, the court may determine that a material change of circumstance warranting a modification of child support has occurred, provided that the party's ability to pay child support is sufficiently reduced due to incarceration.
- 20 **(D)** THE COURT MAY MODIFY THE AMOUNT TO BE PAID TOWARD AN 21 ARREARAGE AT ANY TIME WITHOUT A SHOWING OF A MATERIAL CHANGE OF 22 CIRCUMSTANCE.
- 23 **12–104.2.**
- THE COURT SHALL TERMINATE A CHILD SUPPORT ORDER THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED OR ASSIGNED FOR A CHILD RECEIVING A FOSTER CARE MAINTENANCE PAYMENT, WITHOUT A SHOWING OF A MATERIAL CHANGE OF CIRCUMSTANCE, ON THE FILING FOR A TERMINATION BY THE CHILD SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION, LOCAL OFFICE OF CHILD SUPPORT, OR LOCAL DEPARTMENT,
- 29 AFTER THE SOCIAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION, OR ITS DESIGNEE, DETERMINES
- 30 THAT THE ORDER IS NO LONGER APPROPRIATE.
- 31 12–201.
- 32 (c) (1) "Adjusted actual income" means actual income minus:

- 1 [(1)] (I) preexisting reasonable child support obligations actually paid;
- 2 **[**and
- 3 (2)] (II) except as provided in § 12–204(a)(2) of this subtitle, alimony or
- 4 maintenance obligations actually paid; AND
- 5 (III) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPHS (2) AND (3) OF THIS
- 6 SUBSECTION, A DEDUCTION FOR SUPPORT FOR EACH CHILD LIVING IN THE
- 7 PARENT'S HOME, TO WHOM THE PARENT OWES A LEGAL DUTY OF SUPPORT,
- 8 **PROVIDED:**
- 9 1. THE CHILD SPENDS AT LEAST 92 OVERNIGHTS PER
- 10 YEAR IN THE PARENT'S HOME; AND
- 11 2. THE PARENT IS NOT OTHERWISE OBLIGATED TO PAY
- 12 CHILD SUPPORT FOR THE CHILD IN ACCORDANCE WITH A COURT ORDER.
- 13 (2) FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF THE
- 14 DEDUCTION UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION:
- 15 (I) THE BASIC CHILD SUPPORT OBLIGATION FOR EACH
- 16 ADDITIONAL ELIGIBLE CHILD IN THE PARENT'S HOME SHALL BE DETERMINED IN
- 17 ACCORDANCE WITH § 12–204 OF THIS SUBTITLE, USING ONLY THE ACTUAL INCOME
- 18 OF THE PARENT ENTITLED TO THE DEDUCTION; AND
- 19 (II) THE AMOUNT DETERMINED UNDER ITEM (I) OF THIS
- 20 PARAGRAPH SHALL BE MULTIPLIED BY 0.75.
- 21 (3) THE COURT SHALL DECLINE TO AWARD A DEDUCTION UNDER
- 22 PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE COURT FINDS, AFTER
- 23 CONSIDERING THE EVIDENCE AND THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CHILD FOR WHOM
- 24 SUPPORT IS BEING DETERMINED, THAT THE APPLICATION OF THE DEDUCTION
- 25 WOULD BE UNJUST OR INAPPROPRIATE.
- 26 (n) "Self-support reserve" means the adjustment to a basic child support
- 27 obligation ensuring that a child support obligor maintains a minimum amount of monthly
- 28 income, after payment of child support, federal and state income taxes, and Federal
- 29 Insurance Contribution Act taxes, of at least 110% of the 2019 federal poverty [level]
- 30 **GUIDELINES** for an individual (\$1,145).
- 31 12–202.

- 1 (a) (1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection and 2 subsection (b) of this section, in any proceeding to establish or modify child support, 3 whether pendente lite or permanent, the court shall use the child support guidelines set 4 forth in this subtitle.
- 5 (2) (i) There is a rebuttable presumption that the amount of child 6 support which would result from the application of the child support guidelines set forth in 7 this subtitle is the correct amount of child support to be awarded.
- 8 (ii) The presumption may be rebutted by evidence that the 9 application of the guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate in a particular case.
- 10 (iii) In determining whether the application of the guidelines would 11 be unjust or inappropriate in a particular case, the court may consider:
- 12 1. the terms of any existing separation or property 13 settlement agreement or court order, including:
- A. any provisions for payment of mortgages [or], marital debts, [payment of] OR college education expenses [,];
- 16 **B.** the terms of any use and possession order or right to occupy the family home under an agreement [,];
- 18 C. any direct payments made for the benefit of the children required by THE agreement or order[,]; or
- 20 **D.** any other financial considerations set out in an existing 21 separation or property settlement agreement or court order; **AND**
- 22 2. [the presence in the household of either parent of other children to whom that parent owes a duty of support and the expenses for whom that parent is directly contributing; and
- 3.] whether an obligor's monthly child support obligation would leave the obligor with a monthly actual income below 110% of the 2019 federal poverty [level] GUIDELINES for an individual (LESS THAN \$1,145).
- 28 (iv) [The presumption may not be rebutted solely on the basis of 29 evidence of the presence in the household of either parent of other children to whom that 30 parent owes a duty of support and the expenses for whom that parent is directly 31 contributing.
- 32 (v)] 1. If the court determines that the application of the 33 guidelines would be unjust or inappropriate in a particular case, the court shall make a

- 1 written finding or specific finding on the record stating the reasons for departing from the 2guidelines. 3 2. The court's finding shall state: 4 the amount of child support that would have been required A. 5 under the guidelines; 6 В. how the order varies from the guidelines; 7 \mathbf{C} . how the finding serves the best interests of the child WHO 8 IS THE SUBJECT OF THE ORDER: and 9 D. in cases in which items of value are conveyed instead of a 10 portion of the support presumed under the guidelines, the estimated value of the items 11 conveyed. 12 12 - 204.13 The basic child support obligation shall be determined in accordance 14 with the schedule of basic child support obligations in subsection (e) of this section. The 15 basic child support obligation shall be divided between the parents in proportion to their 16 adjusted actual incomes. 17 (2)If one or both parents have made a request for alimony or (i) 18 maintenance in the proceeding in which a child support award is sought, the court shall 19 decide the issue and amount of alimony or maintenance before determining the child 20 support obligation under these guidelines. 21(ii) If the court awards alimony or maintenance, the amount of 22alimony or maintenance awarded shall be considered actual income for the recipient of the 23alimony or maintenance and shall be subtracted from the income of the payor of the alimony 24or maintenance under [§ 12–201(c)(2)] § 12–201(C)(1)(II) of this subtitle before the court 25 determines the amount of a child support award. THE AMOUNT OF THE DEDUCTION FOR THE SUPPORT OF 26**(3)** 27 **CHILDREN** PARENT'S ADDITIONAL LIVING IN A HOME UNDER 12-201(C)(1)(III) OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE SUBTRACTED FROM THE PARENT'S 28 29 ACTUAL INCOME BEFORE THE COURT DETERMINES THE AMOUNT OF A CHILD 30 SUPPORT AWARD.
- 31 Article Transportation
- 32 16–203.

- 1 (a) In this section, "Child Support Administration" means the Child Support 2 Administration of the Department of Human Services.
- 3 (b) On notification by the Child Support Administration in accordance with § 4 10–119 of the Family Law Article that an obligor WITH A NONCOMMERCIAL DRIVER'S
- 5 LICENSE is 60 days or more out of compliance with the most recent CHILD SUPPORT order
- 6 [of the court in making child support payments], OR AN OBLIGOR WITH A COMMERCIAL
 - DRIVER'S LICENSE IS 120 DAYS OR MORE OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE MOST
- 8 RECENT CHILD SUPPORT ORDER, the Administration:
- 9 (1) Shall suspend an obligor's license or privilege to drive in the State; and
- 10 (2) May issue a work–restricted license or work–restricted privilege to 11 drive.
- 12 (c) (1) Prior to the suspension of a license or the privilege to drive in the State 13 and the issuance of a work-restricted license or work-restricted privilege to drive under 14 subsection (b) of this section, the Administration shall send written notice of the proposed 15 action to the obligor, including notice of the obligor's right to contest the accuracy of the 16 information.
- 17 (2) Any contest under this subsection shall be limited to whether the 18 Administration has mistaken the identity of the obligor or the individual whose license or 19 privilege to drive has been suspended.
- 20 (d) (1) An obligor may appeal a decision of the Administration to suspend the 21 obligor's license or privilege to drive.
- 22 (2) At a hearing under this subsection, the issue shall be limited to whether 23 the Administration has mistaken the identity of the obligor or the individual whose license 24 or privilege to drive has been suspended.
- 25 (e) The Administration shall reinstate an obligor's license or privilege to drive in 26 the State if:
- 27 (1) The Administration receives a court order to reinstate the license or 28 privilege to drive; or
- 29 (2) The Child Support Administration notifies the Administration that:
- 30 (i) The individual whose license or privilege to drive was suspended 31 is not [in arrears in making child support payments] **60 DAYS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH** 32 THE MOST RECENT CHILD SUPPORT ORDER IF THE INDIVIDUAL HAS A NONCOMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE, OR **120 DAYS OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE** 34 MOST RECENT CHILD SUPPORT ORDER IF THE INDIVIDUAL HAS A COMMERCIAL
- 35 DRIVER'S LICENSE;

1	(ii)	The obligor has paid the support arrearage in full;
2 3	(iii) amount of support for 6 c	The obligor has demonstrated good faith by paying the ordered consecutive months;
4 5	(iv) program approved by the	The obligor is a participant in full compliance in an employment Child Support Administration; or
6 7	(v) Article exists.	One of the grounds under § 10–119(c)(1)(i) of the Family Law
8 9 10	* *	ry of Transportation, in cooperation with the Secretary of Human f Administrative Hearings, shall adopt regulations to implement
11 12	SECTION 2. AND October 1, 2026.	BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect