



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 15/ HOUSE BILL 681:

Child Support - Driver's License Suspension for Arrearages and Court Orders

TO: Hon. Luke Clippinger, Chair, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Trina Selden

DATE: February 20th, 2025

I am Trina Selden, founder and executive director of Out for Justice. Usually, I leave it to my team to testify on legislation impacting our members. Still, I wanted to testify as a mother and grandmother to talk about the impact that the child support system has had on my family.

My son and I have been threatened repeatedly by the mother of his child, who has weaponized the child support system to increase his monthly payments, keep him away from his daughter, and take away his driver's license - which he needs to work. The Child Support Administration has been less than helpful in helping our family increase our visitation rights and protect his ability to work. This bill will at least allow him to have a fair hearing regarding his Driver's License so that he may continue to work and support my granddaughter.

Relationships can be messy and complicated. Most of us have experienced this at some point in our lives. However, losing one's Driver's License, having one's wages garnished, and increased threats of incarceration, which are tools that child support uses, are not effective methods of dealing with breakups or ensuring that children are provided for. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have on the impact this bill or child support enforcement has on families. I urge a favorable report.