FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 458

100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MAY.

Read 1st time February 27, 2019, and ordered printed.

2341S.01I

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

AN ACT

To repeal section 454.1005, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to child support enforcement.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 454.1005, RSMo, is repealed and one new section 2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 454.1005, to read as follows:

454.1005. 1. To show cause why suspension of a license may not be

2 appropriate, the obligor shall request a hearing from the court or division that

3 issued the notice of intent to suspend the license. The request shall be made

4 within sixty days of the date of service of notice.

5 2. If an obligor fails to respond, without good cause, to a notice of intent

to suspend a license[,] or to timely request a hearing or comply with a payment

plan, [the obligor's defenses and objections shall be considered to be without

8 merit and] the court or director may enter an order suspending the obligor's

9 license and ordering the obligor to refrain from engaging in the licensed activity.

10 3. **Due process requires that,** upon timely receipt of a request for

hearing from an obligor, the court or director shall schedule a hearing **that**complies with due process to determine if suspension of the obligor's license

13 is appropriate **considering all relevant factors**. The court or director shall

14 stay suspension of the license pending the outcome of the hearing.

4. [If the action involves an arrearage, the only issues that may be

16 determined in a hearing pursuant to this section are] In determining whether

17 the license suspension is appropriate under the circumstances, the

18 court or director shall consider and issue written findings of fact and

19 conclusions of law regarding the following:

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- 20 (1) The identity of the obligor;
- 21 (2) Whether the arrearage is in an amount greater than or equal to three 22 months of support payments or two thousand five hundred dollars, whichever is less, by the date of service of a notice of intent to suspend; [and] 23
- 24 (3) Whether the obligor has entered a payment plan. If the action 25 involves a failure to comply with a subpoena or order, the only issues that may be determined are the identity of the obligor and whether the obligor has 26 complied with the subpoena or order; 27
 - (4) Whether the obligor had the ability to make the payments that are in arrearage;
- 30 (5) Whether the obligor has the current ability to make the 31 payments;
- 32 (6) The reasons the obligor needs the license, including, but not 33 limited to:
- 34 (a) Transportation of family members to and from work, school, 35 or medical treatment;
- 36 (b) Transportation of the obligor or family members to extra curricular activities; or 37
 - (c) A requirement for employment;
 - (7) Whether the obligor is unemployed or underemployed;
- 40 (8) Whether the obligor is actively seeking employment;
- (9) Whether the obligor has been offered job assistance through 41 42 the state;
- 43 (10) Whether the obligor is disabled and his or her capacity to 44 work; and
- 45 (11) Any other relevant factors that affect the obligor's ability to 46 make the child support payments.
- 5. If the court or director, after the hearing, determines that the 48 obligor has failed to comply with the child support payment obligation and an arrearage exists in excess of two thousand five hundred dollars for good cause, then the court or director shall not issue an order suspending the obligor's license and ordering the obligor to refrain 51 52from engaging in the licensed activity or, if an order is in place, shall stay such order. 53
- 54 **6.** If the court or director, after hearing, determines that the obligor has failed, without good cause, to comply with any of the requirements in subsection 4 of this section, the court or director shall issue an order suspending

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57 the obligor's license and ordering the obligor to refrain from engaging in the 58 licensed activity.

- [6.] 7. The court or division shall send a copy of the order suspending a license to the licensing authority and the obligor by certified mail.
- [7.] 8. The determination of the director, after a hearing pursuant to this section, shall be a final agency decision and shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to chapter 536. Administrative hearings held pursuant to this section shall be conducted by hearing officers appointed by the director of the department pursuant to subsection 1 of section 454.475.
- [8.] 9. A determination made by the court or division pursuant to this section is independent of any proceeding of the licensing authority to suspend, revoke, deny, terminate or renew a license.

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