



Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536

BILL



ANALYSIS

Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986

Senate Bill 592 (Substitute S-2 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)

Sponsor: Senator Michael J. Bouchard

Committee: Families, Mental Health and Human Services

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Friend of the Court (FOC) Act, effective June 1, 1996, to:

- Require the FOC to report to a consumer reporting agency support information, including the arrearage amount, concerning each payer with an arrearage of support of two or more months if the amount were equal to or greater than \$1,000.
- Prohibit the FOC from making information available to a consumer reporting agency if the office determined that the agency did not have sufficient capability to systematically and timely make accurate use of the information, or if the agency did not furnish evidence satisfactory to the FOC that the agency was a consumer reporting agency.
- Require the FOC to make current support information of an individual payer available to a consumer reporting agency upon request of a payer or the agency.
- Require the FOC to correct within 14 days any incorrect information it made available to a consumer reporting agency.
- Prohibit the FOC from reporting support information until after a review had taken place if the payer requested a review by the specified deadline.

The bill also would delete provisions that do the following:

- Require the FOC, before reporting, to give the payer notice that if he or she is reported, support information will continue to be provided to the consumer reporting agency until the support arrearage falls and remains below the applicable threshold for two years.
- Specify the conditions under which the FOC is required to provide a payer with a review to enable him or her to object to the reporting on the ground of a mistake of fact.
- Require the FOC to discontinue reporting support information regarding a payer and request deletion of information previously reported if the payer's arrearage has fallen and remained below the applicable threshold for two years.
- Provide that support information is not available if the support recipient has filed with the FOC an agreement signed by the payer and the recipient, stipulating that information be made available only upon the recipient's request (unless the recipient receives public assistance or an arrearage is payable to the State).

MCL 552.512

Legislative Analyst: L. Burghardt

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill could reduce some administrative cost to the FOC office. The impact would be minimal.

Date Completed: 10-31-95

Fiscal Analyst: M. Bain

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.