

SENATE BILL No. 1429

June 26, 2008, Introduced by Senator SCOTT and referred to the Committee on Families and Human Services.

A bill to amend 1846 RS 84, entitled
"Of divorce,"
by amending sections 23 and 24 (MCL 552.23 and 552.24), section 23
as amended and section 24 as added by 1999 PA 159.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 23. (1) Upon entry of a judgment of divorce or separate
2 maintenance, if the estate and effects awarded to either party are
3 insufficient for the suitable support and maintenance of either
4 party and any children of the marriage ~~as~~ **WHO** are committed to the
5 care and custody of either party, the court may ~~further~~ **ALSO** award
6 to either party the part of the real and personal estate of either
7 party and spousal support out of the real and personal estate, to
8 be paid to either party in gross or otherwise as the court
9 considers just and reasonable, after considering the ability of

1 either party to pay and the character and situation of the parties,
2 and all the other circumstances of the case.

3 (2) Upon certification by a county ~~family independence agency~~
4 **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES** that a complainant or petitioner in a
5 proceeding under this chapter is receiving public assistance either
6 personally or for children of the marriage, payments received by
7 the friend of the court or the state disbursement unit for the
8 support and education of the children or maintenance of the party
9 shall be transmitted to the ~~family independence agency~~ **DEPARTMENT**
10 **OF HUMAN SERVICES**.

11 (3) ~~To reimburse the county for the cost of enforcing a~~
12 ~~spousal or child support order or a parenting time order, the court~~
13 ~~shall order the payment of a service fee of \$2.00 per month,~~
14 ~~payable semiannually on each January 2 and July 2. The service fee~~
15 ~~shall be paid by the person ordered to pay the spousal or child~~
16 ~~support. The service fee shall be computed from the beginning date~~
17 ~~of the spousal or child support order and shall continue while the~~
18 ~~spousal or child support order is operative. The service fee shall~~
19 ~~be paid 6 months in advance on each due date, except for the first~~
20 ~~payment, which shall be paid at the same time the spousal or child~~
21 ~~support order is filed, and covers the period of time from that~~
22 ~~month until the next calendar due date. An order or judgment that~~
23 ~~provides for the payment of temporary or permanent spousal or child~~
24 ~~support that requires collection by the friend of the court or the~~
25 ~~SDU shall provide for the payment of the service fee. Upon its own~~
26 ~~motion, a court may amend such an order or judgment for the payment~~
27 ~~of temporary or permanent spousal or child support to provide for~~

~~the payment of the service fee in the amount provided by this subsection, upon proper notice to the person ordered to pay the spousal or child support. The service fees shall be turned over to the county treasurer and credited to the general fund of the county.~~ If the court appoints the friend of the court custodian, receiver, trustee, or escrow agent of assets owned by ~~the~~ **A** husband and wife, or either of them, the court may fix the amount of the fee for such service, to be turned over to the county treasurer and credited to the general fund of the county. The court may hold in contempt a person who fails or refuses to pay a fee ordered under this subsection.

(4) As used in this ~~act~~ **SECTION AND SECTION 24**, "state disbursement unit" or "SDU" means the entity established in section 6 of the office of child support act, 1971 PA 174, MCL 400.236.

Sec. 24. ~~The department, the SDU, and each office of the friend of the court shall cooperate in the transition to the centralized receipt~~ **THE SDU IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLLECTION** and disbursement of support. ~~and fees.~~ An office of the friend of the court ~~shall~~ **MAY** continue to receive ~~and disburse~~ support and fees. ~~through the transition, based on the schedule developed as required by section 6 of the office of child support act, 1971 PA 174, MCL 400.236, and modifications to that schedule as the department considers necessary.~~

Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect unless Senate Bill No. 1427

of the 94th Legislature is enacted into law.