

**FRIEND OF THE COURT ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 294 of 1982**

**552.502a Definitions; M to T.**

Sec. 2a. As used in this act:

(a) "Medical assistance" means medical assistance as established under title XIX of the social security act, 42 USC 1396 to 1396w-5.

(b) "Office" and "office of the friend of the court" mean an agency created in section 3.

(c) "Office of child support" means the office of child support created in section 2 of the office of child support act, 1971 PA 174, MCL 400.232.

(d) "Payer" means a person ordered by the circuit court to pay support.

(e) "Private health care coverage" means health care coverage obtained through an employer or purchased by an individual from an insurer.

(f) "Public assistance" means cash assistance provided under the social welfare act, 1939 PA 280, MCL 400.1 to 400.119b.

(g) "Public health care coverage" means health care coverage that is established or maintained by a local, state, or federal government such as Medicaid established under title XIX of the social security act, 42 USC 1396 to 1396w-5 or the state children's health insurance program established under title XXI of the social security act, 42 USC 1397aa to 1397mm.

(h) "Recipient of support" means the following:

(i) The spouse, if the support order orders spousal support.

(ii) The custodial parent or guardian, if the support order orders support for a minor child or a child who is 18 years of age or older.

(iii) The department, if support has been assigned to that department.

(iv) The county, if the minor is in county-supported foster care.

(i) "State advisory committee" means the committee established by the bureau under section 19.

(j) "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.

(k) "Support" means all of the following:

(i) The payment of money for a child or a spouse ordered by the circuit court, whether the order is embodied in an interim, temporary, permanent, or modified order or judgment. Support may include payment of the expenses of medical, dental, and other health care, child care expenses, and educational expenses.

(ii) The payment of money ordered by the circuit court under the paternity act, 1956 PA 205, MCL 722.711 to 722.730, for the necessary expenses connected to the pregnancy of the mother or the birth of the child, or for the repayment of genetic testing expenses.

(iii) A surcharge under section 3a of the support and parenting time enforcement act, MCL 552.603a.

(l) "Support and parenting time enforcement act" means 1982 PA 295, MCL 552.601 to 552.650.

(m) "Support order" means an order entered by the circuit court for the payment of support in a sum certain, whether in the form of a lump sum or a periodic payment.

(n) "Title IV-D" means part D of title IV of the social security act, 42 USC 651 to 669b.

(o) "Title IV-D agency" means that term as defined in section 2 of the support and parenting time enforcement act, MCL 552.602.

**History:** Add. 1996, Act 366, Eff. Jan. 1, 1997;—Am. 1999, Act 150, Imd. Eff. Nov. 3, 1999;—Am. 2002, Act 571, Eff. June 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 210, Eff. Oct. 1, 2004;—Am. 2009, Act 233, Imd. Eff. Jan. 8, 2010;—Am. 2019, Act 27, Imd. Eff. June 20, 2019.

**Popular name:** Friend of the Court