

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

552.511 Initiating enforcement of support order and custody or parenting time order; procedure; arrearage; amnesty.

Sec. 11. (1) Except as provided in this section, each office shall initiate 1 or more support enforcement measures under the support and parenting time enforcement act when 1 of the following applies:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, the arrearage under the support order is equal to or greater than the monthly amount of support payable under the order. If the support order was entered ex parte, an office shall not initiate enforcement under this subdivision until the office receives a copy of proof of service for the order and at least 1 month has elapsed since the date of service. An office is not required to initiate enforcement under this subdivision if 1 or more of the following circumstances exist:

(i) Despite the existence of the arrearage, an order of income withholding is effective and payment is being made under the order of income withholding in the amount required under the order.

(ii) Despite the existence of the arrearage and even though an order of income withholding is not effective, payment is being made in the amount required under the order.

(iii) One or more support enforcement measures have been initiated and an objection to 1 or more of those measures has not been resolved.

(b) A parent fails to obtain or maintain health care coverage for the parent's child as ordered by the court. The office shall initiate enforcement under this subdivision at the following times:

(i) Within 60 days after the entry of a support order containing health care coverage provisions.

(ii) When a review is conducted as provided in section 17.

(iii) Concurrent with enforcement initiated by the office under subdivision (a).

(iv) Upon receipt of a written complaint from a party.

(v) Upon receipt of a written complaint from the department if the child for whose benefit health care coverage is ordered is a recipient of public assistance or medical assistance.

(c) A person legally responsible for the actual care of a child incurs an uninsured health care expense and submits to the office a written complaint that meets the requirements of section 11a.

(2) An arrearage amount that arises at the moment a court issues an order imposing or modifying support, because the order relates back to a petition or motion filing date, shall not be considered as an arrearage for the purpose of initiating support enforcement measures, centralizing enforcement, or other action required or authorized in response to a support arrearage under this act or the support and parenting time enforcement act, unless the payer fails to become current with the court ordered support payments within 2 months after entry of the order imposing or modifying support.

(3) An office shall not initiate a support enforcement measure to collect a payer's child support arrearage while the payer has amnesty for that arrearage under section 3b of the office of child support act, 1971 PA 174, MCL 400.233b.

History: 1982, Act 294, Eff. July 1, 1983;—Am. 1985, Act 208, Eff. Mar. 1, 1986;—Am. 1990, Act 297, Imd. Eff. Dec. 14, 1990;—Am. 1992, Act 288, Eff. Jan. 1, 1993;—Am. 1995, Act 241, Eff. Mar. 28, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 144, Imd. Eff. Mar. 25, 1996;—Am. 1996, Act 266, Eff. Jan. 1, 1997;—Am. 2002, Act 571, Eff. June 1, 2003;—Am. 2004, Act 567, Eff. June 1, 2005.

Popular name: Friend of the Court