

CHAPTER 21**(HB 405)**

AN ACT relating to child support.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

➔Section 1. KRS 186.570 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The cabinet or its agent designated in writing for that purpose may deny any person an operator's license or may suspend the operator's license of any person, or, in the case of a nonresident, withdraw the privilege of operating a motor vehicle in this state, subject to a hearing and with or without receiving a record of conviction of that person of a crime, if the cabinet has reason to believe that:
 - (a) That person has committed any offenses for the conviction of which mandatory revocation of a license is provided by KRS 186.560.
 - (b) That person has, by reckless or unlawful operation of a motor vehicle, caused, or contributed to an accident resulting in death or injury or serious property damage.
 - (c) That person has a mental or physical disability that makes it unsafe for him to drive upon the highways. The Transportation Cabinet shall, by administrative regulations promulgated pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A, establish a medical review board to provide technical assistance in the review of the driving ability of these persons. The board shall consist of licensed medical and rehabilitation specialists.
 - (d) That person is an habitually reckless or negligent driver of a motor vehicle or has committed a serious violation of the motor vehicle laws.
 - (e) That person has been issued a license without making proper application for it, as provided in KRS 186.412 and administrative regulations promulgated pursuant to KRS Chapter 13A.
 - (f) That person has presented false or misleading information as to the person's residency, citizenship, religious convictions, or immigration status.
 - (g) A person required by KRS 186.480 to take an examination has been issued a license without first having passed the examination.
 - (h) That person has been convicted of assault and battery resulting from the operation of a motor vehicle.
 - (i) That person has failed to appear pursuant to a citation or summons issued by a law enforcement officer of this Commonwealth or any other jurisdiction.
 - (j) That person has failed to appear pursuant to an order by the court to produce proof of security required by KRS 304.39-010 and a receipt showing that a premium for a minimum policy period of six (6) months has been paid.
 - (k) That person is a habitual violator of KRS 304.39-080. For purposes of this section, a "habitual violator" shall mean any person who has operated a motor vehicle without security on the motor vehicle as required by Subtitle 39 of this chapter three (3) or more times within a five (5) year period, in violation of KRS 304.99-060(2).
- (2) The cabinet shall deny any person a license or shall suspend the license of an operator of a motor vehicle upon receiving written notification from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services that the person has a child support arrearage which equals or exceeds the cumulative amount which would be owed after **six (6) months**~~one (1) year~~ of nonpayment or failure, after receiving appropriate notice, to comply with a subpoena or warrant relating to paternity or child support proceedings, as provided by 42 U.S.C. secs. 651 et seq.; except that any child support arrearage which exists prior to January 1, 1994, shall not be included in the calculation to determine whether the license of an operator of a motor vehicle shall be denied or suspended. The denial or suspension shall continue until the arrearage has been eliminated, payments on the child support arrearage are being made in accordance with a court or administrative order, or the person complies with the subpoena or warrant relating to paternity or child support. Before the license may be reinstated, proof of elimination of the child support arrearage or proof of compliance with the subpoena or warrant relating to paternity or child support proceedings as provided by 42 U.S.C. sec. 666(a)(16) from the court where the action is pending or the Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall be received by the Transportation Cabinet as prescribed by

administrative regulations promulgated by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services and the Transportation Cabinet.

- (3) The cabinet or its agent designated in writing for that purpose shall deny any person an operator's license or shall suspend the operator's license of any person, or, in the case of a nonresident, withdraw the privilege of operating a motor vehicle in this state, where the person has been declared ineligible to operate a motor vehicle under KRS 532.356 for the duration of the ineligibility, upon notification of the court's judgment.
- (4) The cabinet or its agent designated in writing for that purpose shall provide any person subject to the suspension, revocation, or withdrawal of their driving privileges, under provisions of this section, an informal hearing. Upon determining that the action is warranted, the cabinet shall notify the person in writing by mailing the notice to the person by first-class mail to the last known address of the person. The hearing shall be automatically waived if not requested within twenty (20) days after the cabinet mails the notice. The hearing shall be scheduled as early as practical within twenty (20) days after receipt of the request at a time and place designated by the cabinet. An aggrieved party may appeal a decision rendered as a result of an informal hearing, and upon appeal an administrative hearing shall be conducted in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.
- (5) (a) The cabinet may suspend the operator's license of any resident upon receiving notice of the conviction of that person in another state of an offense there which, if committed in this state, would be grounds for the suspension or revocation of an operator's license. The cabinet shall not suspend an operator's license under this paragraph if:
 1. The conviction causing the suspension or revocation is more than five (5) years old;
 2. The conviction is for a traffic offense other than a felony traffic offense or a habitual violator offense; and
 3. The license holder complies with the provisions of KRS 186.442.
- (b) If, at the time of application for an initial Kentucky operator's license, a person's license is suspended or revoked in another state for a conviction that is less than five (5) years old, the cabinet shall deny the person a license until the person resolves the matter in the other state and complies with the provisions of this chapter.
- (c) The cabinet may, upon receiving a record of the conviction in this state of a nonresident driver of a motor vehicle of any offense under the motor vehicle laws, forward a notice of that person's conviction to the proper officer in the state of which the convicted person is a resident.
- (d) This subsection shall not apply to a commercial driver's license.
- (6) The Transportation Cabinet is forbidden from suspending or revoking an operator's license or assessing points or any other form of penalty against the license holder for speeding violations or speeding convictions from other states. This subsection shall apply only to speeding violations. This section shall not apply to a person who holds or is required to hold a commercial driver's license.
- (7) Each operator's license which has been canceled, suspended, or revoked shall be surrendered to and retained by the cabinet. At the end of the period of cancellation, suspension, or revocation, the license may be returned to the licensee after he has complied with all requirements for the issuance or reinstatement of his driving privilege.
- (8) Insurance companies issuing motor vehicle policies in the Commonwealth shall be prohibited from raising a policyholder's rates solely because the policyholder's driving privilege has been suspended or denied pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

➔Section 2. KRS 205.721 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) All services available to individuals receiving public assistance under Title IV-A of the Federal Social Security Act benefits shall also be available to individuals not receiving public assistance benefits, upon application by the individual with the cabinet.
- (2) The cabinet shall continue to provide IV-D services when a family ceases to receive public assistance without requiring a formal application and without payment of the application fee specified in subsection (3) of this section. IV-D services shall be discontinued upon the request of the recipient.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the cabinet may charge an application fee for the services based on a fee schedule, which shall take into account the applicant's net income. No application fee shall be required from individuals receiving public assistance.

(4) ***The cabinet shall impose an annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25) pursuant to Public Law 109-171, Section 7310, which shall be satisfied by withholding the fee from a child support disbursement.***

➔Section 3. KRS 205.712 is amended to read as follows:

(1) The Division of Child Support is established in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services.

(2) The duties of the Division of Child Support, or its designee, shall include:

(a) Serve as state agency authorized to administer Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. secs. 651 to 669;

(b) Serve as the information agency as provided in the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act, KRS Chapter 407;

(c) Serve as collector of all court-ordered or administratively ordered child support payments pursuant to Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act;

(d) Serve as the agent for enforcement of international child support obligations, and respond to requests from foreign reciprocating countries;

(e) Establish and enforce an obligation upon receipt of a completed, notarized voluntary acknowledgment-of-paternity form;

(f) Enforce Kentucky child support laws, including collection of court-ordered or administratively ordered child support arrearages and prosecution of persons who fail to pay child support;

(g) Publicize the availability of services and encourage the use of these services for establishing paternity and child support;

(h) Pay the cost of genetic testing to establish paternity, subject to recoupment from the alleged father, when paternity is administratively or judicially determined; and obtain additional testing when an original test is contested, upon request and advance payment by the contestant;

(i) Establish child support obligations and seek modification of judicially or administratively established child support obligations in accordance with the child support guidelines of the Commonwealth of Kentucky as provided under KRS 403.212;

(j) Administratively establish child support orders which shall have the same force and effect of law;

(k) Issue an administrative subpoena to secure public and private records of utility and cable companies and asset and liability information from financial institutions for the establishment, modification, or enforcement of a child support obligation;

(l) Impose a penalty for failure to comply with an administrative subpoena;

(m) Provide notices, copies of proceedings, and determinations of support amounts to any parties or individuals who are applying for or receiving Title IV-D services, or who are parties to cases in which Title IV-D services are being provided;

(n) Issue interstate administrative subpoenas to any individual or entity for financial or other information or documents which are needed to establish, modify, or enforce a child support obligation pursuant to Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. secs. 651 et seq. An administrative subpoena lawfully issued in another state to an individual or entity residing in this state shall be honored and enforced in the Circuit Court where the individual or entity resides; and

(o) May promulgate administrative regulations to implement this section and adopt forms or implement other requirements of federal law relating to interstate administrative subpoenas.

(3) Effective September 30, 1999, the cabinet shall establish a system to receive and process all child support payments. The system shall include existing computer systems to record the payments. The automated system shall include a state case registry that contains records with respect to each case in which services are being

provided by the cabinet and each child support order established or modified in the state on or after October 1, 1998.

- (4) The cabinet shall establish and operate a state disbursement unit for the collection, disbursement, and recording of payments under support orders for all Title IV-D cases and for all cases initially issued in the state on or after January 1, 1994, in which a wage withholding has been court-ordered or administratively ordered, pursuant to Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act. Establishment of the state unit may include the designation and continuation of existing local collection units to aid efficient and effective collection, disbursement, and recording of child support payments.
- (5) After the establishment of the disbursement unit child support collection system, the cabinet or its designee shall serve as collector of all court-ordered or administratively ordered child support payments pursuant to Part D of Title IV of the Social Security Act.
- (6) Where establishment of paternity and enforcement and collection of child support is by law the responsibility of local officials, the cabinet shall refer cases to the appropriate official for such action. The cabinet may enter into cooperative arrangements with appropriate courts and law enforcement officials to assist the cabinet in administering the program of child support recovery, including the entering into of financial arrangements with such courts and officials as provided for under the provisions of federal law and regulations. The local county attorney shall be considered the designee of the cabinet for purposes of administering the program of child support recovery within a county, subject to the option of the county attorney to decline such designation. Nothing in this section shall prevent the secretary from taking such action, with prior written notice, as appropriate if the terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement are not met. When a cooperative agreement with a contracting official is canceled for good cause, the cabinet may not offer that cooperative agreement to that official during the official's tenure.
- (7) Where the local county attorney, friend of the court, domestic relations agent, or other designee of the cabinet has been contracted for the purpose of administering child support enforcement pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, the contracting official shall be deemed to be representing the cabinet and as such does not have an attorney-client relationship with the applicant who has requested services pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act nor with any dependent on behalf of the individuals for whom services are sought.
- (8) The cabinet shall determine the name of each obligor who owes an arrearage of at least **two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500)**~~{five thousand dollars (\$5,000)}~~. After notification to the obligor owing an arrearage amount of **two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500)**~~{five thousand dollars (\$5,000)}~~, the cabinet shall transmit to the United States secretary of health and human services the certified names of the individuals and supporting documentation for the denial, revocation, or limitation of the obligor's passport. The cabinet shall notify the identified obligor of the determination and the consequences and provide an opportunity to contest the determination.
- (9) The cabinet shall determine the name of an obligor owing an arrearage and shall indefinitely deny, suspend, or revoke a license or certification that has been issued if the person has a child support arrearage that equals or exceeds the amount that would be owed after six (6) months of nonpayment or fails, after receiving appropriate notice, to comply with subpoenas or warrants relating to paternity or child support proceedings as provided by 42 U.S.C. sec. 666(a)(16).
- (10) The cabinet shall forward the name of the individual to a board of licensure or board of certification for the notification of the denial, revocation, or suspension of a driver's license, professional license or certification, occupational license or certification, recreational license, or sporting license.
- (11) The denial or suspension shall remain in effect until the child support arrearage has been eliminated or payments on the child support arrearage are being made in accordance with a court or administrative order, the person complies with the subpoena or warrant relating to paternity or child support proceedings, or the appeal of the denial or suspension is upheld and the license is reinstated.
- (12) Except for cases administered by the cabinet under 42 U.S.C. secs. 651 et seq. which shall be afforded the appeal process set forth by KRS 405.450(3), an individual who has a license or certification denied, revoked, or suspended shall have the right to appeal to the licensing or certifying board.
- (13) A dispute hearing shall be conducted by the cabinet in accordance with KRS 405.450. The only basis for a dispute hearing shall be a mistake in fact.

- (14) The cabinet shall in its discretion enter into agreements with financial institutions doing business in the Commonwealth to develop and operate, in coordination with the financial institutions, a data match system. The financial institution shall be required to provide identifying information for each obligated parent who maintains an account at the institution and owes an arrearage, and who shall be identified by the cabinet. Assets held by the institutions on behalf of any obligated parent who is subject to a child support lien pursuant to KRS 205.745 shall be encumbered or surrendered in response to a notice of lien or levy issued by the cabinet. The cabinet may pay a reasonable fee to a financial institution for conducting the data match, not to exceed the actual cost. The financial institution shall not be liable for encumbering or surrendering any assets held by the financial institution in response to a notice of lien or levy issued by the cabinet or for any other action taken in good faith to comply with the requirements of this subsection.
- (15) The cabinet may issue both intrastate and interstate administrative subpoenas to any individual or entity for financial or other information or documents that are needed to establish, modify, or enforce a child support obligation pursuant to Title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. secs. 651 et seq. An administrative subpoena lawfully issued in another state to an individual or entity in this state shall be honored and enforced in the Circuit Court of the county in which the individual or entity resides.
- (16) The Cabinet for Health and Family Services shall forward to the Office of the Attorney General a list of names of delinquent obligors and, in cooperation with the Office of the Attorney General, shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to implement KRS 15.055.
- (17) The cabinet shall compare a quarterly report provided by the Finance and Administration Cabinet of all tort claims made against the state by individuals with the child support database to match individuals who have a child support arrearage and may receive a settlement from the state.
- (18) The cabinet shall prepare and distribute to the cabinet's designee for the administration of the child support program information on child support collections and enforcement. The information shall include a description of how child support obligations are:
- (a) Established;
 - (b) Modified;
 - (c) Enforced;
 - (d) Collected; and
 - (e) Distributed.
- (19) The cabinet's designee for the administration of the child support program shall distribute, when appropriate, the following:
- (a) Information on child support collections and enforcement; and
 - (b) Job listings posted by employment services.

➔Section 4. KRS 413.090 is amended to read as follows:

Except as provided in KRS 396.205, 413.110, 413.220, 413.230 and 413.240, the following actions shall be commenced within fifteen (15) years after the cause of action first accrued:

- (1) An action upon a judgment or decree of any court of this state or of the United States, or of any state or territory thereof, the period to be computed from the date of the last execution thereon;[-]
- (2) An action upon a recognizance, bond or written contract;[-]
- (3) An action upon the official bond of a sheriff, marshal, clerk, constable or any other public officer, or any commissioner, receiver, curator, personal representative, guardian, conservator, or trustee appointed by a court or authority of law;[-]
- (4) An action upon an appeal bond or bond given on a supersedeas, attachment, injunction, order of arrest or for the delivery of property or for the forthcoming of property, or to obey or perform an order or judgment of court in an action, or upon a bond for costs, or any other bond taken by a court or judge or by an officer pursuant to the directions of a court or judge, in an action or after judgment or decree, or upon a replevin, sale or delivery bond taken under execution or decree, upon an indemnifying bond taken under a statute, or upon a bond to

suspend a proceeding, or upon a bond or obligation for the payment of money or property or for the performance of any undertaking; *and*

- (5) *An action to recover unpaid child support arrearages, which may be initiated as one (1) cumulative action for all child support arrearages owed under a court order, with the time to commence an action under this subsection being tolled until all current child support obligations cease as to the last child covered by that order.*

Signed by Governor April 9, 2008.