



April 2016

Child Support Enforcement Agency

SB 308 Administrative Process Revisions

SB308 was introduced by Senator Coley on April 7, 2016 to fine-tune the child support administrative processes. The bill is based on the work of the Shareholders' Reform Group from 2002 and it contains recommendations to **update** and **streamline processes** by closing unintended loopholes and creating statewide consistency and efficient case processing. The proposed changes in SB308 do not affect the substantive rights of parties.

The **Shareholders' Reform Group** was comprised of legislators, judges and magistrates, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services, county child support professionals, mothers' and fathers' groups.

Why Do We Need These Revisions?

Many of the administrative processes included in this proposal have been pieced together from prior legislation. As a result, inconsistencies exist that need to be addressed. These changes will streamline processes and create consistency county to county, which benefits the families we serve. These revisions are separate from the proposed changes in SB262, the child support guidelines bill.



One in three children are involved in Ohio's child support program

What Revisions Are Included?

The changes included in this proposal will help to streamline processes and efficiencies statewide, for the benefit of Ohio's families. No changes have been made to the notice requirements the CSEAs currently have with regard to due process. Proposed changes include:

Clarifies that a child support enforcement agency (CSEA) may order a mother to pay child support. Currently, a CSEA can only order a father to pay support in an administrative order. This is a necessary change to allow CSEAs to administratively establish orders payable to a custodial parent father by a non-custodial parent mother.

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Clarifies a uniform effective date for the administrative support order to bring consistency statewide, as there are currently a variety of effective dates being used county to county.



Expedites the process for administrative review and adjustment, by shortening the review period from 45 days to 30 days. This will help parties get their child support orders reviewed and adjusted more quickly.

Clarifies the reasons for administrative termination of an order, including recognizing the marriage of the parents to one another as a reason to terminate a child support order. Also clarifies when a CSEA can terminate an order and when an order has to be terminated through a court.

Changes all administrative appeal periods to fourteen days. This will provide greater consistency in our processes, as we currently have varying appeal periods, from five day periods to seven to ten to fourteen to thirty. This will also align our appeal periods with those provided in the court process.

Allows a CSEA to add or modify an arrearage payment when the CSEA is modifying the current support obligations.

When parties fail to appear at the support hearing (after proper notice), this proposal **allows** a CSEA to make reasonable assumptions about income in establishment of orders, similar to the existing authority currently used in modification of orders. This brings the two processes in line with each other. Parents still retain their right to object to the order once issued.

Expedites the lump sum intercept process by changing to an administrative process.

Ensures that a CSEA receives federal reimbursement for labor intensive processes (i.e. support establishment, modification of orders), by requiring that the case have a completed IV-D application on file.

Allows for modification of payment amount in arrears-only cases, giving express authorization to CSEAs to modify the payment under appropriate circumstances. Currently, there is no such express authority in statute.