93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 02/04/04, by Marlow H. Colvin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

750 ILCS 5/505

from Ch. 40, par. 505

Amends the Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of Marriage Act. Provides that a court may extend the payment of child support beyond the date a child attains the age of 18 or 19 if the obligor's liability for payment of support was suspended or reduced before that date due to the obligor's incarceration. Provides that the duration of the period of extension shall be equal to the duration of the obligor's incarceration.

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AN ACT concerning child support.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Marriage and Dissolution of 5 Marriage Act is amended by changing Section 505 as follows:

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(750 ILCS 5/505) (from Ch. 40, par. 505)

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Sec. 505. Child support; contempt; penalties.

(a) In a proceeding for dissolution of marriage, legal 8 separation, declaration of invalidity of 9 marriage, а proceeding for child support following dissolution of the 10 marriage by a court which lacked personal jurisdiction over the 11 12 absent spouse, a proceeding for modification of a previous order for child support under Section 510 of this Act, or any 13 14 proceeding authorized under Section 501 or 601 of this Act, the 15 court may order either or both parents owing a duty of support to a child of the marriage to pay an amount reasonable and 16 17 necessary for his support, without regard to marital misconduct. The duty of support owed to a child includes the 18 19 obligation to provide for the reasonable and necessary physical, mental and emotional health needs of the child. For 20 purposes of this Section, the term "child" shall include any 21 22 child under age 18 and any child under age 19 who is still 23 attending high school.

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(1) The Court shall determine the minimum amount of support by using the following guidelines:

26	Number of Children	Percent of Supporting Party's
27		Net Income
28	1	20%
29	2	28%
30	3	32%
31	4	40%
32	5	45%

1 6 or more 50% (2) The above guidelines shall be applied in each case 2 unless the court makes a finding that application of the 3 guidelines would be inappropriate, after considering the 4 best interests of the child in light of evidence including 5 but not limited to one or more of the following relevant 6 7 factors: (a) the financial resources and needs of the child; 8 (b) the financial resources and needs of the 9 10 custodial parent; (c) the standard of living the child would have 11 12 enjoyed had the marriage not been dissolved; 13 (d) the physical and emotional condition of the child, and his educational needs; and 14 (e) the financial resources and needs of the 15 non-custodial parent. 16 If the court deviates from the guidelines, the court's 17 finding shall state the amount of support that would have 18 been required under the guidelines, if determinable. The 19 court shall include the reason or reasons for the variance 20 21 from the guidelines. (3) "Net income" is defined as the total of all income 22 23 from all sources, minus the following deductions: Federal income tax (properly calculated 24 (a) 25 withholding or estimated payments); 26 (b) State income tax (properly calculated 27 withholding or estimated payments); 28 (c) Social Security (FICA payments); 29 (d) Mandatory retirement contributions required by law or as a condition of employment; 30 (e) Union dues; 31 32 Dependent and individual (f) 33 health/hospitalization insurance premiums; (g) Prior obligations of support or maintenance 34 actually paid pursuant to a court order; 35 36 (h) Expenditures for repayment of debts that

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1 represent reasonable and necessary expenses for the production of income, medical expenditures necessary 2 to preserve life or health, reasonable expenditures 3 for the benefit of the child and the other parent, 4 5 exclusive of gifts. The court shall reduce net income in determining the minimum amount of support to be 6 ordered only for the period that such payments are due 7 and shall enter an order containing provisions for its 8 9 self-executing modification upon termination of such 10 payment period.

11 (4) In cases where the court order provides for health/hospitalization insurance coverage pursuant 12 to Section 505.2 of this Act, the premiums for that insurance, 13 or that portion of the premiums for which the supporting 14 party is responsible in the case of insurance provided 15 16 through an employer's health insurance plan where the 17 employer pays a portion of the premiums, shall be subtracted from net income in determining the minimum 18 amount of support to be ordered. 19

20 (4.5)In a proceeding for child support following dissolution of the marriage by a court that lacked personal 21 jurisdiction over the absent spouse, and in which the court 22 23 is requiring payment of support for the period before the date an order for current support is entered, there is a 24 25 rebuttable presumption that the supporting party's net 26 income for the prior period was the same as his or her net 27 income at the time the order for current support is 28 entered.

(5) If the net income cannot be determined because of 29 30 default or any other reason, the court shall order support 31 in an amount considered reasonable in the particular case. 32 The final order in all cases shall state the support level in dollar amounts. However, if the court finds that the 33 child support amount cannot be expressed exclusively as a 34 dollar amount because all or a portion of the payor's net 35 income is uncertain as to source, time of payment, or 36

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amount, the court may order a percentage amount of support in addition to a specific dollar amount and enter such other orders as may be necessary to determine and enforce, on a timely basis, the applicable support ordered.

5 (6) If (i) the non-custodial parent was properly served 6 with a request for discovery of financial information relating to the non-custodial parent's ability to provide 7 child support, (ii) the non-custodial parent failed to 8 comply with the request, despite having been ordered to do 9 10 so by the court, and (iii) the non-custodial parent is not 11 present at the hearing to determine support despite having 12 received proper notice, then any relevant financial 13 information concerning the non-custodial parent's ability 14 to provide child support that was obtained pursuant to subpoena and proper notice shall be admitted into evidence 15 16 without the need to establish any further foundation for 17 its admission.

(a-5) In an action to enforce an order for support based on 18 19 the respondent's failure to make support payments as required 20 by the order, notice of proceedings to hold the respondent in contempt for that failure may be served on the respondent by 21 personal service or by regular mail addressed to 22 the 23 respondent's last known address. The respondent's last known address may be determined from records of the clerk of the 24 25 court, from the Federal Case Registry of Child Support Orders, 26 or by any other reasonable means.

27 (a-10) A court may extend the payment of child support beyond the date a child attains the age of 18 or 19 if the 28 obligor's liability for payment of support was suspended or 29 reduced before that date due to the obligor's incarceration. 30 31 The period of extension shall begin on the date the child attains the age of 18 (or 19 if still attending high school) or 32 the date the obligor is released from incarceration, whichever 33 is later. The duration of the period of extension shall be 34 35 equal to the duration of the obligor's incarceration. Upon ordering an extension of the period for payment of support 36

under this subsection, the court shall determine the amount of
 support to be paid by the obligor as follows:

3 (1) If the obligor's liability for payment of support 4 was suspended due to the obligor's incarceration, the court 5 shall order the obligor to pay support in an amount equal 6 to the amount that was due under an order for support 7 immediately before the effective date of the order 8 suspending payment of support.

9 (2) If the obligor's liability for payment of support 10 was reduced due to the obligor's incarceration, the court 11 shall order the obligor to pay support in an amount equal 12 to the amount by which the support was reduced.

(b) Failure of either parent to comply with an order to pay support shall be punishable as in other cases of contempt. In addition to other penalties provided by law the Court may, after finding the parent guilty of contempt, order that the parent be:

18 (1) placed on probation with such conditions of19 probation as the Court deems advisable;

20 (2) sentenced to periodic imprisonment for a period not
21 to exceed 6 months; provided, however, that the Court may
22 permit the parent to be released for periods of time during
23 the day or night to:

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(A) work; or

(B) conduct a business or other self-employedoccupation.

The Court may further order any part or all of the earnings of a parent during a sentence of periodic imprisonment paid to the Clerk of the Circuit Court or to the parent having custody or to the guardian having custody of the children of the sentenced parent for the support of said children until further order of the Court.

If there is a unity of interest and ownership sufficient to render no financial separation between a non-custodial parent and another person or persons or business entity, the court may pierce the ownership veil of the person, persons, or business - 6 - LRB093 18144 DRJ 43837 b

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1 entity to discover assets of the non-custodial parent held in 2 the name of that person, those persons, or that business 3 entity. The following circumstances are sufficient to authorize a court to order discovery of the assets of a person, 4 5 persons, or business entity and to compel the application of any discovered assets toward payment on the judgment for 6 7 support:

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 the non-custodial parent and the person, persons, or business entity maintain records together.

10 (2) the non-custodial parent and the person, persons, 11 or business entity fail to maintain an arms length 12 relationship between themselves with regard to any assets.

(3) the non-custodial parent transfers assets to the
person, persons, or business entity with the intent to
perpetrate a fraud on the custodial parent.

16 With respect to assets which are real property, no order 17 entered under this paragraph shall affect the rights of bona fide purchasers, mortgagees, judgment creditors, or other lien 18 19 holders who acquire their interests in the property prior to 20 the time a notice of lis pendens pursuant to the Code of Civil Procedure or a copy of the order is placed of record in the 21 22 office of the recorder of deeds for the county in which the 23 real property is located.

The court may also order in cases where the parent is 90 24 days or more delinquent in payment of support or has been 25 26 adjudicated in arrears in an amount equal to 90 days obligation 27 or more, that the parent's Illinois driving privileges be 28 suspended until the court determines that the parent is in 29 compliance with the order of support. The court may also order 30 that the parent be issued a family financial responsibility driving permit that would allow limited driving privileges for 31 32 employment and medical purposes in accordance with Section 33 7-702.1 of the Illinois Vehicle Code. The clerk of the circuit 34 court shall certify the order suspending the driving privileges 35 of the parent or granting the issuance of a family financial responsibility driving permit to the Secretary of State on 36

1 forms prescribed by the Secretary. Upon receipt of the 2 authenticated documents, the Secretary of State shall suspend 3 the parent's driving privileges until further order of the 4 court and shall, if ordered by the court, subject to the 5 provisions of Section 7-702.1 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, 6 issue a family financial responsibility driving permit to the 7 parent.

8 In addition to the penalties or punishment that may be 9 imposed under this Section, any person whose conduct constitutes a violation of Section 15 of the Non-Support 10 11 Punishment Act may be prosecuted under that Act, and a person 12 convicted under that Act may be sentenced in accordance with 13 that Act. The sentence may include but need not be limited to a requirement that the person perform community service under 14 15 Section 50 of that Act or participate in a work alternative 16 program under Section 50 of that Act. A person may not be 17 required to participate in a work alternative program under Section 50 of that Act if the person is currently participating 18 19 in a work program pursuant to Section 505.1 of this Act.

20 support obligation, or any portion of a support А obligation, which becomes due and remains unpaid for 30 days or 21 22 more shall accrue simple interest at the rate of 9% per annum. 23 An order for support entered or modified on or after January 1, 24 2002 shall contain a statement that a support obligation 25 required under the order, or any portion of a support 26 obligation required under the order, that becomes due and 27 remains unpaid for 30 days or more shall accrue simple interest 28 at the rate of 9% per annum. Failure to include the statement 29 in the order for support does not affect the validity of the 30 order or the accrual of interest as provided in this Section.

31 (c) A one-time charge of 20% is imposable upon the amount 32 of past-due child support owed on July 1, 1988 which has 33 accrued under a support order entered by the court. The charge 34 shall be imposed in accordance with the provisions of Section 35 10-21 of the Illinois Public Aid Code and shall be enforced by 36 the court upon petition. - 8 - LRB093 18144 DRJ 43837 b

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1 (d) Any new or existing support order entered by the court 2 under this Section shall be deemed to be a series of judgments 3 against the person obligated to pay support thereunder, each 4 such judgment to be in the amount of each payment or 5 installment of support and each such judgment to be deemed 6 entered as of the date the corresponding payment or installment becomes due under the terms of the support order. Each such 7 8 judgment shall have the full force, effect and attributes of 9 any other judgment of this State, including the ability to be 10 enforced. A lien arises by operation of law against the real 11 and personal property of the noncustodial parent for each 12 installment of overdue support owed by the noncustodial parent.

13 (e) When child support is to be paid through the clerk of the court in a county of 1,000,000 inhabitants or less, the 14 15 order shall direct the obligor to pay to the clerk, in addition 16 to the child support payments, all fees imposed by the county 17 board under paragraph (3) of subsection (u) of Section 27.1 of the Clerks of Courts Act. Unless paid in cash or pursuant to an 18 19 order for withholding, the payment of the fee shall be by a 20 separate instrument from the support payment and shall be made to the order of the Clerk. 21

22 (f) All orders for support, when entered or modified, shall 23 include a provision requiring the obligor to notify the court and, in cases in which a party is receiving child and spouse 24 services under Article X of the Illinois Public Aid Code, the 25 26 Illinois Department of Public Aid, within 7 days, (i) of the 27 name and address of any new employer of the obligor, (ii) 28 whether the obligor has access to health insurance coverage through the employer or other group coverage and, if so, the 29 30 policy name and number and the names of persons covered under 31 the policy, and (iii) of any new residential or mailing address 32 or telephone number of the non-custodial parent. In any subsequent action to enforce a support order, upon a sufficient 33 34 showing that a diligent effort has been made to ascertain the 35 location of the non-custodial parent, service of process or 36 provision of notice necessary in the case may be made at the

last known address of the non-custodial parent in any manner
 expressly provided by the Code of Civil Procedure or this Act,
 which service shall be sufficient for purposes of due process.

(q) An order for support shall include a date on which the 4 5 current support obligation terminates. The termination date 6 shall be no earlier than the date on which the child covered by the order will attain the age of 18. However, if the child will 7 not graduate from high school until after attaining the age of 8 9 18, then the termination date shall be no earlier than the 10 earlier of the date on which the child's high school graduation 11 will occur or the date on which the child will attain the age 12 of 19. The order for support shall state that the termination date does not apply to any arrearage that may remain unpaid on 13 that date. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to 14 15 prevent the court from modifying the order or terminating the 16 order in the event the child is otherwise emancipated.

17 (h) An order entered under this Section shall include a provision requiring the obligor to report to the obligee and to 18 19 the clerk of court within 10 days each time the obligor obtains 20 new employment, and each time the obligor's employment is terminated for any reason. The report shall be in writing and 21 shall, in the case of new employment, include the name and 22 23 address of the new employer. Failure to report new employment 24 or the termination of current employment, if coupled with nonpayment of support for a period in excess of 60 days, is 25 26 indirect criminal contempt. For any obligor arrested for 27 failure to report new employment bond shall be set in the amount of the child support that should have been paid during 28 29 the period of unreported employment. An order entered under 30 this Section shall also include a provision requiring the obligor and obligee parents to advise each other of a change in 31 32 residence within 5 days of the change except when the court finds that the physical, mental, or emotional health of a party 33 or that of a child, or both, would be seriously endangered by 34 disclosure of the party's address. 35

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(i) The court does not lose the powers of contempt,

1 driver's license suspension, or other child support 2 enforcement mechanisms, including, but not limited to, 3 criminal prosecution as set forth in this Act, upon the 4 emancipation of the minor child or children.

5 (Source: P.A. 92-16, eff. 6-28-01; 92-203, eff. 8-1-01; 92-374,

6 eff. 8-15-01; 92-651, eff. 7-11-02; 92-876, eff. 6-1-03;

7 93-148, eff. 7-10-03.)