

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

FILE NUMBER: H.F. 680
Version: As Introduced

DATE: February 26, 1999

Authors: Mike Jaros

Subject: Family Law; Child Support

Analyst: Joe Cox, 651-296-5044

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This bill changes what is considered income for purposes of calculating child support in a specific situation.

Background

For purposes of calculating child support, Minnesota has a broad definition of "income." The definition is not necessarily the same as the definition of income for tax purposes. Additionally, the definition currently excludes any MFIP-S assistance received.

In some circumstances, when physical custody of the children is shared by the parents, each parent may be required to pay child support during the period when the child is residing with the other parent. This can help to spread financial burdens more evenly over time for the parents. Additionally, if the parents have disparate incomes it can help to apportion child expenses in relation to income.

- 1 Income calculation when physical custody split.** Provides that benefits received under:
 - (1) chapter 256J (MFIP-S); and
 - (2) Title IV-A of the Social Security Act (the federal TANF block grant used to help fund MFIP-S)

shall be considered income for purposes of child support calculation if physical custody is split and both parents are required to pay child support at times.