
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5120

State of Washington

52nd Legislature

1991 Regular Session

By Senate Committee on Law & Justice (originally sponsored by Senators Nelson, Rasmussen, Thorsness, Stratton, Saling, McCaslin, Hayner, Erwin, L. Smith, Newhouse, Amondson, Johnson, Bailey, Gaspard, Vognild, Matson, West, Owen, Bauer, Snyder, Roach and Oke).

Read first time February 6, 1991.

1 AN ACT Relating to child support; amending RCW 26.19.010,
2 26.19.020, 26.19.060, 26.19.090, and 26.09.170; adding new sections to
3 chapter 26.19 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 26.09 RCW; and
4 repealing RCW 26.19.040.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 26.19.010 and 1988 c 275 s 2 are each amended to read
7 as follows:

8 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in
9 this section apply throughout this chapter:

10 (1) "Child support schedule" means the standards (~~and economic~~
11 ~~table adopted by the commission~~) as defined under subsection (2) of
12 this section and the economic table provided in RCW 26.19.020;

13 (2) "Standards" means the standards for determination of child
14 support which have been adopted by the commission, as modified by the
15 legislature;

1 (3) "Economic table" means the child support table for the basic
2 support obligation (~~((which has been adopted by the commission))~~)
3 provided in RCW 26.19.020;

4 (4) "Worksheets" means the forms (~~((adopted))~~) developed by the
5 (~~((commission))~~) administrator for the courts for use in determining the
6 amount of child support;

7 (5) "Instructions" means the instructions (~~((adopted))~~) developed by
8 the (~~((commission))~~) administrator for the courts for use in completing
9 the worksheets;

10 (6) "Commission" means the Washington state child support schedule
11 commission established by RCW 26.19.030; (~~((and))~~)

12 (7) "Standard calculation" means the amount of child support which
13 is owed as determined from the worksheets before any deviation is
14 considered;

15 (8) "Basic child support obligation" means the monthly obligation
16 determined from the economic table based on the parties' combined
17 monthly net income; and

18 (9) "Transfer payment" means the court-ordered amount one parent is
19 obligated to pay to the other parent for child support.

20 **Sec. 2.** RCW 26.19.020 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 s 19 are each amended
21 to read as follows:

22 (~~((If approved by a majority vote of the superior court judges of a~~
23 ~~county, the superior court may adopt by local court rule an economic~~
24 ~~table that shall be used by the superior court of that county, instead~~
25 ~~of the economic table adopted by the commission, to determine the~~
26 ~~appropriate amount of child support. The economic table adopted by the~~
27 ~~superior court shall not vary by more than twenty-five percent from the~~
28 ~~economic table adopted by the commission and shall not vary the~~

1 economic table for combined monthly net income of two thousand five
 2 hundred dollars or less.))

3 The legislature adopts the following economic table:

4 ECONOMIC TABLE
 5 MONTHLY BASIC SUPPORT OBLIGATION PER CHILD
 6 KEY: A = AGE 0-11 B = AGE 12-18

7 <u>COMBINED</u>				
8 <u>MONTHLY</u>	<u>ONE</u>		<u>TWO</u>	
9 <u>NET</u>	<u>CHILD</u>		<u>CHILDREN</u>	
10 <u>INCOME</u>	<u>FAMILY</u>		<u>FAMILY</u>	
11 -----				
12	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
13 -----				
14 0				
15 100				
16 200				
17 300				
18 400				
19 500				
	For income less than \$600 the obligation			
	is based upon the resources and living expenses			
	of each household.			
20 600	133	164	103	127
21 700	155	191	120	148
22 800	177	218	137	170
23 900	199	246	154	191
24 1000	220	272	171	211
25 1100	242	299	188	232
26 1200	264	326	205	253
27 1300	285	352	221	274
28 1400	307	379	238	294
29 1500	327	404	254	313
30 1600	347	428	269	333
31 1700	367	453	285	352
32 1800	387	478	300	371
33 1900	407	503	316	390
34 2000	427	527	331	409
35 2100	447	552	347	429
36 2200	467	577	362	448
37 2300	487	601	378	467
38 2400	506	626	393	486
39 2500	526	650	408	505
40 2600	534	661	416	513
41 2700	542	670	421	520
42 2800	549	679	427	527
43 2900	556	686	431	533
44 3000	561	693	436	538
45 3100	566	699	439	543
46 3200	569	704	442	546
47 3300	573	708	445	549
48 3400	574	710	446	551
49 3500	575	711	447	552
50 3600	577	712	448	553
51 3700	578	713	449	554
52 3800	581	719	452	558
53 3900	596	736	463	572
54 4000	609	753	473	584

1	<u>4100</u>	<u>623</u>	<u>770</u>	<u>484</u>	<u>599</u>
2	<u>4200</u>	<u>638</u>	<u>788</u>	<u>495</u>	<u>611</u>
3	<u>4300</u>	<u>651</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>506</u>	<u>625</u>
4	<u>4400</u>	<u>664</u>	<u>821</u>	<u>516</u>	<u>637</u>
5	<u>4500</u>	<u>677</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>525</u>	<u>649</u>
6	<u>4600</u>	<u>689</u>	<u>851</u>	<u>535</u>	<u>661</u>
7	<u>4700</u>	<u>701</u>	<u>856</u>	<u>545</u>	<u>673</u>
8	<u>4800</u>	<u>713</u>	<u>882</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>685</u>
9	<u>4900</u>	<u>726</u>	<u>897</u>	<u>564</u>	<u>697</u>
10	<u>5000</u>	<u>738</u>	<u>912</u>	<u>574</u>	<u>708</u>

11	-----							
12	COMBINED							
13	MONTHLY		THREE		FOUR		FIVE	
14	NET		CHILDREN		CHILDREN		CHILDREN	
15	INCOME		FAMILY		FAMILY		FAMILY	
16	-----							
17		A	B	A	B	A	B	
18	-----							

19	0						
20	<u>100</u>						
21	<u>200</u>						
22	<u>300</u>						
23	<u>400</u>						
24	<u>500</u>						

For income less than \$600 the obligation is based upon the resources and living expenses of each household.

25	<u>600</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>78</u>
26	<u>700</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>91</u>
27	<u>800</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>104</u>
28	<u>900</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>135</u>	<u>95</u>	<u>118</u>
29	<u>1000</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>177</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>130</u>
30	<u>1100</u>	<u>157</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>133</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>143</u>
31	<u>1200</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>144</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>156</u>
32	<u>1300</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>136</u>	<u>168</u>
33	<u>1400</u>	<u>199</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>168</u>	<u>208</u>	<u>147</u>	<u>181</u>
34	<u>1500</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>179</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>193</u>
35	<u>1600</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>235</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>205</u>
36	<u>1700</u>	<u>238</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>248</u>	<u>175</u>	<u>217</u>
37	<u>1800</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>212</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>228</u>
38	<u>1900</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>240</u>
39	<u>2000</u>	<u>277</u>	<u>342</u>	<u>234</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>252</u>
40	<u>2100</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>358</u>	<u>245</u>	<u>303</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>264</u>
41	<u>2200</u>	<u>302</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>256</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>276</u>
42	<u>2300</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>330</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>288</u>
43	<u>2400</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>406</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>242</u>	<u>299</u>
44	<u>2500</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>421</u>	<u>288</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>251</u>	<u>311</u>
45	<u>2600</u>	<u>346</u>	<u>428</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>362</u>	<u>256</u>	<u>316</u>
46	<u>2700</u>	<u>351</u>	<u>435</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>321</u>
47	<u>2800</u>	<u>356</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>301</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>262</u>	<u>324</u>
48	<u>2900</u>	<u>360</u>	<u>445</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>376</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>328</u>
49	<u>3000</u>	<u>364</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>308</u>	<u>380</u>	<u>268</u>	<u>331</u>
50	<u>3100</u>	<u>367</u>	<u>453</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>383</u>	<u>270</u>	<u>334</u>
51	<u>3200</u>	<u>369</u>	<u>457</u>	<u>312</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>272</u>	<u>336</u>
52	<u>3300</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>459</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>339</u>
53	<u>3400</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>460</u>	<u>315</u>	<u>389</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>340</u>
54	<u>3500</u>	<u>373</u>	<u>461</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>275</u>	<u>341</u>
55	<u>3600</u>	<u>374</u>	<u>462</u>	<u>317</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>342</u>
56	<u>3700</u>	<u>375</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>318</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>277</u>	<u>343</u>
57	<u>3800</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>466</u>	<u>319</u>	<u>394</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>344</u>

1	<u>3900</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>477</u>	<u>326</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>284</u>	<u>352</u>
2	<u>4000</u>	<u>395</u>	<u>488</u>	<u>334</u>	<u>413</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>360</u>
3	<u>4100</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>298</u>	<u>368</u>
4	<u>4200</u>	<u>413</u>	<u>511</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>377</u>
5	<u>4300</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>522</u>	<u>357</u>	<u>441</u>	<u>311</u>	<u>385</u>
6	<u>4400</u>	<u>431</u>	<u>532</u>	<u>364</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>317</u>	<u>392</u>
7	<u>4500</u>	<u>438</u>	<u>542</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>458</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>400</u>
8	<u>4600</u>	<u>446</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>377</u>	<u>467</u>	<u>329</u>	<u>407</u>
9	<u>4700</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>562</u>	<u>384</u>	<u>475</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>414</u>
10	<u>4800</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>572</u>	<u>391</u>	<u>483</u>	<u>341</u>	<u>422</u>
11	<u>4900</u>	<u>470</u>	<u>581</u>	<u>398</u>	<u>491</u>	<u>347</u>	<u>429</u>
12	<u>5000</u>	<u>479</u>	<u>592</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>353</u>	<u>437</u>

13 When combined monthly income exceeds five thousand dollars per
14 month, child support shall be determined by that amount from the table.
15 The judge, in his or her discretion, may order an additional amount to
16 be paid in cases with unusual or extraordinary circumstances.

17 The economic table shall remain in effect until revised by the
18 legislature.

19 **Sec. 3.** RCW 26.19.060 and 1988 c 275 s 7 are each amended to read
20 as follows:

21 The child support schedule (~~((under RCW 26.19.040))~~) shall be
22 published in the Washington State Register. The (~~((commission))~~)
23 administrator for the courts shall also request that the supreme court
24 cause the child support schedule to be published in the official
25 advance sheets of the supreme court of Washington. The (~~((commission))~~)
26 administrator for the courts shall also request that the Washington
27 state bar association publish the child support schedule in the
28 Washington state bar news.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 26.19 RCW
30 to read as follows:

31 (1) A parent obligated to pay child support may file a motion for
32 an accounting of how the support is being spent by the receiving

1 parent. The parent filing the motion must meet the following
2 conditions prior to filing the motion:

3 (a) The parent filing the motion must be obligated to pay at least
4 fifty percent of the basic child support obligation;

5 (b) If support is owed for one child, the parent must be obligated
6 to pay at least three hundred dollars per month in child support; for
7 two children, the parent must be obligated to pay at least five hundred
8 twenty-five dollars per month in child support; for three or more
9 children, the parent must be obligated to pay at least six hundred
10 sixty dollars per month in child support; and

11 (c) The parent must be current in all child support payments.

12 (2)(a) The motion for an accounting must be accompanied by an
13 affidavit setting forth facts demonstrating that the parent receiving
14 support is not spending a substantial portion of the child support for
15 the direct or indirect benefit of the child. The motion, affidavit, and
16 notice of hearing shall be served on the parent receiving support. The
17 only issue at the preliminary hearing on the motion shall be whether
18 there is reasonable cause to believe that the support is directly or
19 indirectly benefiting the child.

20 (b) If the court determines at the preliminary hearing that the
21 motion and affidavit establish reasonable cause to believe that a
22 substantial portion of the support is not directly or indirectly
23 benefiting the child the court may: (i) Set a show cause hearing on
24 the motion and affidavit; or (ii) order the parents to mediate the
25 issue with a court commissioner, family court commissioner, or other
26 appropriate person. The court's order shall be in writing and shall
27 set forth the facts which establish reasonable cause. The parent
28 receiving support may be required to produce at the show cause hearing
29 such documentation as the court determines is necessary to resolve the
30 issue and which is reasonably available to the parent. The parent

1 receiving support shall not be required to provide documentation for
2 expenditures for more than six months prior to the time of the filing
3 of the motion.

4 (c) If the court determines at the preliminary hearing that the
5 motion and affidavit do not establish reasonable cause to believe that
6 a substantial portion of the support is directly or indirectly
7 benefiting the child, the court shall order the parent filing the
8 motion and affidavit to pay costs and statutory attorneys' fees to the
9 parent receiving the support.

10 The court may award reasonable attorneys' fees to the parent
11 receiving support if the court determines that:

12 (i) The motion was brought in bad faith, for harassment, or
13 frivolously; or

14 (ii) The motion was based on material statements of fact which were
15 false.

16 (3) If at the show cause hearing on the motion and affidavit the
17 parent obligated to pay support demonstrates by a preponderance of the
18 evidence that a substantial portion of the support is not directly or
19 indirectly benefiting the child, the court shall enter an appropriate
20 order directing the parent receiving the support to spend the child
21 support to benefit the child. The court may order the child support
22 payments to be paid to a protective payee for the benefit of the child.
23 The only issue at the hearing on the motion shall be whether the parent
24 receiving support is spending support to directly or indirectly benefit
25 the child.

26 (4) A motion and affidavit for an accounting of child support
27 expenditures may not be filed more than once every twelve months.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 26.19 RCW
29 to read as follows:

1 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, monthly gross
2 income for child support purposes shall include income from any source,
3 including: Salaries, wages, commissions, deferred compensation,
4 bonuses, mandatory overtime, dividends, interest, trust income,
5 severance pay, annuities, capital gains, pension retirement benefits,
6 social security retirement benefits, workers' compensation,
7 unemployment benefits, and spousal maintenance that is actually
8 received.

9 (2) Monthly gross income for the preceding year for child support
10 purposes shall include income from voluntary overtime pay above one
11 hundred sixty-eight hours per month, income from employment in excess
12 of forty hours per week to the extent derived from a second job,
13 nonrecurring bonuses, contract-related cash benefits, gifts, and
14 prizes, except to the extent that income from those sources exceeds the
15 average income from those sources for the second and third years
16 preceding the commencement of the action under chapter 26.09, 26.10, or
17 26.26 RCW.

18 (3) The court shall deduct the following from gross income:
19 Federal and state income taxes, federal insurance contributions act
20 deductions, mandatory pension plan payments, mandatory union or
21 professional dues, court-ordered spousal maintenance to the extent
22 actually paid, up to two thousand dollars per year in voluntary pension
23 payments actually made if the contributions were made for the three
24 consecutive years prior to the filing of the dissolution, and court-
25 ordered payments of child support for children from other relationships
26 to the extent actually paid. All items excluded from income shall be
27 disclosed in the worksheet.

28 (4) The court may deduct normal business expenses and self-
29 employment taxes for self-employed persons. Justification shall be

1 required for any business expense deduction about which there is
2 disagreement.

3 (5) The following resources shall be disclosed, shall not be
4 included in gross income, and shall not be reason to deviate from the
5 standard calculation: Aid to families with dependent children,
6 supplemental security income, general assistance, veterans aid and
7 attendance allowance, and food stamps.

8 (6) The following income shall be disclosed, shall not be included
9 in gross income, but may be a reason to deviate from the standard
10 calculation:

11 (a) Income of a new spouse or income of other adults in the
12 household;

13 (b) Child support received from other relationships; and

14 (c) Income excluded from subsection (2) of this section.

15 (7) (a) Children from relationships other than the relationship of
16 the parties before the court shall not be counted for determining the
17 number of children in the family for purposes of calculating the basic
18 support obligation. The court may not consider, for purposes of
19 deviation in calculating the amount of child support payable, any
20 children for whom the court has allowed a deduction from gross income
21 for court-ordered child support payments.

22 (b) The court may consider deviating from the presumptive basic
23 support obligation when there are children from other relationships and
24 the court has not allowed a deduction from gross income for payments of
25 child support for those children pursuant to subsection (3) of this
26 section. Deviations under this section from the presumptive basic
27 support obligation due shall be based on consideration of the total
28 circumstances of both households.

29 (8) The court shall consider deviating from the standard
30 calculation if the child spends a significant amount of time with the

1 parent who is obligated to pay child support. In determining what
2 constitutes a significant amount of time, the court shall consider the
3 amount of time spent with each parent, as well as the income and
4 expenses of both parents, the amount of the child support obligation,
5 and the financial impact to both parents of the time spent with the
6 parent obligated to pay child support. The court shall not use this
7 subsection to restrict either parent's contact or visitation with the
8 child or children.

9 (9) Additional reasons that may support a deviation from the
10 standard calculation include: Possession of wealth, shared living
11 arrangements, extraordinary debts that have not been voluntarily
12 incurred, extraordinarily high income of a child, a significant
13 disparity of the living costs of the parents due to conditions beyond
14 their control, and special needs of disabled children. A deviation may
15 be supported by tax planning considerations only if the child would not
16 receive a lesser economic benefit as a result of the tax planning.

17 (10) The court shall enter findings which specify reasons for any
18 deviations from the standard calculation made by the court.

19 (11) Agreement of the parties is not by itself adequate reason for
20 deviation from the standard calculation.

21 (12) Neither parent's total child support obligation shall exceed
22 fifty percent of net income unless good cause is shown. Good cause may
23 include possession of substantial wealth, children with day care
24 expenses, special medical, educational, psychological needs, and larger
25 families.

26 (13) The court shall impute income to a parent when the parent is
27 voluntarily underemployed or voluntarily unemployed. The court shall
28 determine whether the parent is voluntarily underemployed or
29 voluntarily unemployed based upon that parent's work history. A parent
30 shall not be deemed voluntarily underemployed as long as that parent is

1 gainfully employed on a full-time basis. Income shall not be imputed
2 for an unemployable parent.

3 **Sec. 6.** RCW 26.19.090 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 s 9 are each amended
4 to read as follows:

5 The child support schedule shall be advisory and not mandatory for
6 postsecondary educational support. When considering whether to order
7 support for postsecondary educational expenses, the court shall
8 determine whether the child is in fact dependent and is relying upon
9 the parents for the reasonable necessities of life. The court shall
10 exercise its discretion when determining whether and for how long to
11 award postsecondary educational support based upon consideration of
12 factors that include but are not limited to the following: Age of the
13 child; the child's needs; the expectations of the parties for their
14 children when the parents were together; the child's prospects,
15 desires, aptitudes, abilities or disabilities; the nature of the
16 postsecondary education sought; and the parents' ~~((level—of~~
17 ~~education,))~~ standard of living~~((,))~~ and current and future resources.
18 Also to be considered are the amount and type of support that the child
19 would have been afforded if the parents had stayed together. The child
20 must be enrolled in an accredited academic or vocational school,
21 actively pursuing a course of study commensurate with the child's
22 vocational goals, and must be in good academic standing as defined by
23 the institution ((or)). The child shall also make available all
24 academic records and grades to both parents as a condition of receiving
25 postsecondary educational support. The court-ordered postsecondary
26 educational support ~~((may))~~ shall be automatically suspended during the
27 period or periods the child fails to comply with these conditions.
28 ~~((The court in its discretion may order that the payment be made~~
29 ~~directly to the parent who has been receiving the transfer payments, to~~

1 ~~the educational institution if feasible, or to the child.))~~ The court
2 shall not order the payment of postsecondary educational expenses
3 beyond the child's twenty-third birthday, except for exceptional
4 circumstances, such as mental, physical, or emotional disabilities.
5 The court shall direct that the payments for postsecondary educational
6 expenses be made directly to the educational institution if feasible.
7 If direct payments are not feasible, then the court in its discretion
8 may order that the payment be made directly to the parent who has been
9 receiving the transfer payments or to the child.

10 NEW SECTION. Sec. 7. A new section is added to chapter 26.19 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 (1) Day care, extraordinary health care, long-distance
13 transportation costs, and special child-rearing expenses such as
14 tuition are not included in the basic support obligation for each
15 child. These expenses shall be shared by the parents in the same
16 proportion as the basic child support obligation and may be listed as
17 a specific dollar amount or as a percentage amount subject to the
18 verification requirements pursuant to subsection (2) of this section.

19 (2) (a) If a sum certain is established for day care and is set
20 forth in the decree, the parent making the transfer payment is entitled
21 to proof of the amount paid for day care. The parent making the
22 transfer payment is responsible for the appropriate percentage of the
23 actual amount paid, not to exceed the proper share of the amount as set
24 forth in the decree. The transfer payment for day care must be made in
25 advance if the day care amount is set forth in the decree or is a
26 regularly paid amount in a sum certain. If an amount is not specified
27 in the decree or a regular sum certain, reimbursement of day care
28 expenses shall be treated in the same manner as reimbursement for
29 transportation costs, extraordinary health care, and other

1 extraordinary expenses. Day care expenses include, but are not limited
2 to, day care expenses incurred while the custodial parent is working,
3 pursuing accredited educational training, or obtaining medical care.

4 (b) For transportation costs, extraordinary health care costs, and
5 other extraordinary expenses of the children specified in the decree,
6 the parent paying these expenses shall be entitled to prompt
7 reimbursement of the other parent's share of those expenses. Proof of
8 the expenditure shall be furnished to the parent from whom
9 reimbursement is sought. Reimbursement must be made promptly but not
10 later than thirty days of receipt of proof of payment of these
11 expenditures.

12 (3) (a) If reimbursement is not made within the thirty-day period
13 or is incomplete due to a nonsufficient fund check or other failure to
14 pay, the parent seeking reimbursement may by motion obtain an order
15 compelling payment with statutory interest. If a parent requests proof
16 of payment and it is not provided within thirty days the party may move
17 to compel production of the documents. The court shall award actual
18 court costs and reasonable attorneys' fees to the prevailing party in
19 every motion filed under this section except upon a showing of good
20 cause for nonpayment.

21 (b) Wage assignment orders may be obtained pursuant to chapter
22 26.18 RCW to collect court-ordered basic child support, day care,
23 extraordinary health care, long-distance transportation costs, or other
24 extraordinary expenses, attorneys' fees, court costs, or any other item
25 ordered by the court. A parent to whom basic child support, day care,
26 extraordinary health care, long-distance transportation costs, or other
27 extraordinary expenses are to be paid based on a percentage share of
28 the costs, may by motion obtain a court order reducing the amounts owed
29 to a sum certain and then enforce collection of that amount by a wage
30 assignment order. The office of support enforcement shall not request

1 a wage assignment in any case of purported nonsupport without obtaining
2 documentation from both parents.

3 **Sec. 8.** RCW 26.09.170 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 s 2 are each amended
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7) of RCW
6 26.09.070, the provisions of any decree respecting maintenance or
7 support may be modified only as to installments accruing subsequent to
8 the motion for modification and, except as otherwise provided in
9 subsections (4), (5), and (8) of this section, only upon a showing of
10 a substantial change of circumstances. The provisions as to property
11 disposition may not be revoked or modified, unless the court finds the
12 existence of conditions that justify the reopening of a judgment under
13 the laws of this state.

14 (2) Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the
15 decree the obligation to pay future maintenance is terminated upon the
16 death of either party or the remarriage of the party receiving
17 maintenance.

18 (3) Unless otherwise agreed in writing or expressly provided in the
19 decree, provisions for the support of a child are terminated by
20 emancipation of the child or by the death of the parent obligated to
21 support the child.

22 (4) An order of child support may be modified one year or more
23 after it has been entered without showing a substantial change of
24 circumstances:

25 (a) If the order in practice works a severe economic hardship on
26 either party or the child;

27 (b) If a party requests an adjustment in an order for child support
28 which was based on guidelines which determined the amount of support

1 according to the child's age, and the child is no longer in the age
2 category on which the current support amount was based;

3 (c) If a child is still in high school, upon a finding that there
4 is a need to extend support beyond the eighteenth birthday to complete
5 high school; or

6 (d) To add an automatic adjustment of support provision consistent
7 with RCW 26.09.100.

8 (5) An order or decree entered prior to June 7, 1984, may be
9 modified without showing a substantial change of circumstances if the
10 requested modification is to:

11 (a) Require health insurance coverage for a child named therein; or

12 (b) Modify an existing order for health insurance coverage.

13 (6) An obligor's voluntary unemployment or voluntary
14 underemployment, by itself, is not a substantial change of
15 circumstances.

16 (7) The department of social and health services may file an action
17 to modify an order of child support if public assistance money is being
18 paid to or for the benefit of the child and the child support order is
19 twenty-five percent or more below the appropriate child support amount
20 set forth in the standard calculation as defined in (~~section 4(2) of~~
21 ~~this act~~) RCW 26.19.010 and reasons for the deviation are not set
22 forth in the findings of fact or order. The determination of twenty-
23 five percent or more shall be based on the current income of the
24 parties and the department shall not be required to show a substantial
25 change of circumstances if the reasons for the deviations were not set
26 forth in the findings of fact or order.

27 (8)(a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection, all
28 child support decrees may be adjusted once every twenty-four months
29 based upon changes in the income of the parents without a showing of

1 substantially changed circumstances. Either party may initiate the
2 modification pursuant to procedures of RCW 26.09.175.

3 (b) Parents whose decrees are entered before (~~the effective date~~
4 ~~of this act~~) July 1, 1990, may petition the court for a modification
5 after twelve months has expired from the entry of the decree or the
6 most recent modification setting child support, whichever is later.
7 However, if a party is granted relief under this provision, twenty-four
8 months must pass before another petition for modification may be filed
9 pursuant to (a) of this subsection.

10 (c) A party may petition for modification in cases of substantially
11 changed circumstances, under subsection (1) of this section, at any
12 time. However, if relief is granted under subsection (1) of this
13 section, twenty-four months must pass before a petition for
14 modification under (a) of this subsection may be filed.

15 (d) If, pursuant to (a) of this subsection, the court modifies a
16 child support obligation by more than thirty percent and the change
17 would cause significant hardship, the court may implement the change in
18 two equal increments, one at the time of the entry of the order and the
19 second six months from the entry of the order. Twenty-four months must
20 pass following the second change before a petition for modification
21 under (a) of this subsection may be filed.

22 (e) A parent who is receiving transfer payments who receives a wage
23 or salary increase may not bring a modification action pursuant to (a)
24 of this subsection alleging that increase constitutes a substantial
25 change of circumstances under subsection (1) of this section.

26 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 26.09 RCW
27 to read as follows:

28 A parent filing a motion for modification of child support shall
29 provide evidence of increased or decreased expenses, including

1 receipts, and shall provide evidence of increased or decreased income,
2 including statements to support such changes, before a child support
3 order may be modified to require increased or decreased child support.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** RCW 26.19.040 and 1990 1st ex.s. c 2 s
5 20, 1988 c 275 s 5, & 1987 c 440 s 2 are each repealed.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** If any provision of this act or its
7 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the
8 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other
9 persons or circumstances is not affected.