

HB 472 -- Interstate Family Support Act

Sponsor: Flook

This bill specifies that whenever more than one state is involved in the establishing, enforcing, or modifying of a child or spousal support order, the provisions of the bill will be implemented to determine the jurisdiction and power of the courts in the different states and which state's law will be applied in the proceedings.

Guidelines are established requiring every state to defer to child support orders entered by the court of the child's home state. The place where the order was originally entered holds continuing exclusive jurisdiction, and only the law of that state can be applied to requests to modify the order of child support unless the original court loses jurisdiction.

The bill also establishes several direct interstate enforcement mechanisms to allow a caretaker parent to have an order mailed to the employer of the obligated parent, require an employer to withhold pay for the benefit of the child, and allow the caretaker parent to have an order mailed to an out-of-state court for enforcement by the other state.