

Bill No. CS for SB 1272

Amendment No. Barcode 965746

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11 Senator Peaden moved the following amendment:

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13 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

14 On page 8, between lines 6 and 7,

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16 insert:

17 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 61.1826, Florida

18 Statutes, is amended to read:

19 61.1826 Procurement of services for State Disbursement

20 Unit and the non-Title IV-D component of the State Case

21 Registry; contracts and cooperative agreements; penalties;

22 withholding payment.--

23 (1) LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS.--The Legislature finds that

24 the clerks of court play a vital role, as essential

25 participants in the establishment, modification, collection,

26 and enforcement of child support, in securing the health,

27 safety, and welfare of the children of this state. The

28 Legislature further finds and declares that:

29 (a) It is in the state's best interest to preserve the

30 essential role of the clerks of court in disbursing child

31 support payments and maintaining official records of child

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1 support orders entered by the courts of this state.

2 (b) As official recordkeeper for matters relating to
3 court-ordered child support, the clerks of court are necessary
4 parties to obtaining, safeguarding, and providing child
5 support payment and support order information.

6 (c) As provided by the federal Personal Responsibility
7 and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, the state
8 must establish and operate a State Case Registry in full
9 compliance with federal law by October 1, 1998, and a State
10 Disbursement Unit by October 1, 1999.

11 (d) Noncompliance with federal law could result in a
12 substantial loss of federal funds for the state's child
13 support enforcement program and the temporary assistance for
14 needy families welfare block grant.

15 (e) The potential loss of substantial federal funds
16 poses a direct and immediate threat to the health, safety, and
17 welfare of the children and citizens of the state and
18 constitutes an emergency for purposes of s. 287.057(4)(a).

19 (f) The clerks of court maintain the official payment
20 record of the court for amounts received, payments credited,
21 arrearages owed, liens attached, and current mailing addresses
22 of all parties, payor, obligor, and payee.

23 (g) The clerks of court have established a statewide
24 Clerk of Court Child Support Enforcement Collection System for
25 the automation of all payment processing using state and local
26 government funds as provided under s. 61.181(2)(b)1.

27 (h) The Legislature acknowledges the improvements made
28 by and the crucial role of the Clerk of the Court Child
29 Support Enforcement Collection System in speeding payments to
30 the children of Florida.

31 (i) There is no viable alternative to continuing the

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1 role of the clerks of court in collecting, safeguarding, and
 2 providing essential child support payment information.
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 4 For these reasons, the Legislature hereby directs the
 5 Department of Revenue, subject to the provisions of subsection
 6 ~~(5)~~(6), to contract with the Florida Association of Court
 7 Clerks and each depository to perform duties with respect to
 8 the operation and maintenance of a State Disbursement Unit and
 9 the non-Title IV-D component of the State Case Registry as
 10 further provided by this section.

11
 12 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

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 14
 15 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

16 And the title is amended as follows:

17 On page 1, line 21, after the semicolon

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19 insert:

20 amending s. 61.1826, F.S.; conforming to repeal
 21 of s. 61.1826(5), F.S.;

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