

Act No. 9
Public Acts of 1996
Approved by the Governor
February 7, 1996
Filed with the Secretary of State
February 7, 1996

STATE OF MICHIGAN
88TH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 1996

Introduced by Senators Hoffman, Geake, Dingell, Gougeon, Shugars, Dunaskiss, Stille, Schuette,
McManus, Byrum, Peters and Emmons

ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 613

AN ACT to amend sections 15, 16, and 17 of chapter 84 of the Revised Statutes of 1846, entitled "Of divorce," sections 15, 16, and 17 as amended by Act No. 291 of the Public Acts of 1990, being sections 552.15, 552.16, and 552.17 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Section 1. Sections 15, 16, and 17 of chapter 84 of the Revised Statutes of 1846, sections 15, 16, and 17 as amended by Act No. 291 of the Public Acts of 1990, being sections 552.15, 552.16, and 552.17 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 15. (1) After the filing of a complaint in an action to annul a marriage or for a divorce or separate maintenance, on the motion of either party or the friend of the court, or on the court's own motion, the court may enter such orders concerning the care, custody, and support of the minor children of the parties during the pendency of the action as the court considers proper and necessary. Subject to section 16a, the court may also order support as provided in this subsection for the parties' children who are not minor children.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the court shall order support in an amount determined by application of the child support formula developed by the state friend of the court bureau. The court may enter an order that deviates from the formula if the court determines from the facts of the case that application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate and sets forth in writing or on the record all of the following:

- (a) The support amount determined by application of the child support formula.
- (b) How the support order deviates from the child support formula.
- (c) The value of property or other support awarded in lieu of the payment of child support, if applicable.
- (d) The reasons why application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate in the case.

(3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit the court from entering a support order that is agreed to by the parties and that deviates from the child support formula, if the requirements of subsection (2) are met.

(4) Beginning January 1, 1991, each support order entered by the court shall provide that each party shall keep the office of the friend of the court informed of both of the following:

(a) The name and address of his or her current source of income. As used in this subdivision, "source of income" means that term as defined in section 2 of the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being section 552.602 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) Any health care coverage that is available to him or her as a benefit of employment or that is maintained by him or her; the name of the insurance company, nonprofit health care corporation, or health maintenance organization; the policy, certificate, or contract number; and the names and birth dates of the persons for whose benefit he or she maintains health care coverage under the policy, certificate, or contract.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "support" may include payment of the expenses of medical, dental, and other health care, child care expenses, and educational expenses. If a support order is entered, the court shall require that 1 or both parents shall obtain or maintain any health care coverage that is available to them at a reasonable cost, as a benefit of employment, for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children. If a parent is self-employed and maintains health care coverage, the court shall require the parent to obtain or maintain dependent coverage for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children, if available at a reasonable cost.

(6) Orders concerning the support of children of the parties are enforceable as provided in the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being sections 552.601 to 552.650 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(7) The court may waive jurisdiction of any minor children under the age of 17 during the pendency of the action to the probate court, to be governed by the laws of this state with respect to dependent and neglected children under the age of 17 years.

Sec. 16. (1) Upon annulling a marriage or entering a judgment of divorce or separate maintenance, the court may enter such orders as it considers just and proper concerning the care, custody, and support of the minor children of the parties. Subject to section 16a, the court may also order support as provided in this subsection for the parties' children who are not minor children. The court may require either parent to file a bond with 1 or more sufficient sureties, in a sum to be fixed by the court, guaranteeing payment of the support ordered in the judgment.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the court shall order support in an amount determined by application of the child support formula developed by the state friend of the court bureau. The court may enter an order that deviates from the formula if the court determines from the facts of the case that application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate and sets forth in writing or on the record all of the following:

- (a) The support amount determined by application of the child support formula.
- (b) How the support order deviates from the child support formula.
- (c) The value of property or other support awarded in lieu of the payment of child support, if applicable.
- (d) The reasons why application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate in the case.

(3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit the court from entering a support order that is agreed to by the parties and that deviates from the child support formula, if the requirements of subsection (2) are met.

(4) Beginning January 1, 1991, each support order entered by the court shall provide that each party shall keep the office of the friend of the court informed of both of the following:

(a) The name and address of his or her current source of income. As used in this subdivision, "source of income" means that term as defined in section 2 of the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being section 552.602 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) Any health care coverage that is available to him or her as a benefit of employment or that is maintained by him or her; the name of the insurance company, nonprofit health care corporation, or health maintenance organization; the policy, certificate, or contract number; and the names and birth dates of the persons for whose benefit he or she maintains health care coverage under the policy, certificate, or contract.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "support" may include payment of the expenses of medical, dental, and other health care, child care expenses, and educational expenses. The judgment shall require that 1 or both parents shall obtain or maintain any health care coverage that is available to them at a reasonable cost, as a benefit of employment, for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children. If a parent is self-employed and maintains health care coverage, the court shall require the parent to obtain or maintain dependent coverage for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children, if available at a reasonable cost.

(6) Orders concerning the support of children of the parties are enforceable as provided in the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being sections 552.601 to 552.650 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(7) The court, in the judgment or after entry of the judgment, may waive jurisdiction of any minor children under the age of 17 years to the probate court to be governed by the laws of this state with respect to dependent and neglected children under the age of 17 years.

Sec. 17. (1) The court may, from time to time after its issuance, on the petition of either of the parents, revise and alter a judgment concerning the care, custody, maintenance, and support of some or all of the children, as the circumstances of the parents, and the benefit of the children require.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the court shall order support in an amount determined by application of the child support formula developed by the state friend of the court bureau. The court may enter an order that deviates from the formula if the court determines from the facts of the case that application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate and sets forth in writing or on the record all of the following:

- (a) The support amount determined by application of the child support formula.
- (b) How the support order deviates from the child support formula.
- (c) The value of property or other support awarded in lieu of the payment of child support, if applicable.
- (d) The reasons why application of the child support formula would be unjust or inappropriate in the case.

(3) Subsection (2) does not prohibit the court from entering a support order that is agreed to by the parties and that deviates from the child support formula, if the requirements of subsection (2) are met.

(4) Beginning January 1, 1991, each support order entered or revised and altered by the court shall provide that each party shall keep the office of the friend of the court informed of both of the following:

(a) The name and address of his or her current source of income. As used in this subdivision, "source of income" means that term as defined in section 2 of the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being section 552.602 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

(b) Any health care coverage that is available to him or her as a benefit of employment or that is maintained by him or her; the name of the insurance company, nonprofit health care corporation, or health maintenance organization; the policy, certificate, or contract number; and the names and birth dates of the persons for whose benefit he or she maintains health care coverage under the policy, certificate, or contract.

(5) For the purposes of this section, "support" may include payment of the expenses of medical, dental, and other health care, child care expenses, and educational expenses. If a support order is entered, the court shall require that 1 or both parents shall obtain or maintain any health care coverage that is available to them at a reasonable cost, as a benefit of employment, for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children. If a parent is self-employed and maintains health care coverage, the court shall require the parent to obtain or maintain dependent coverage for the benefit of the minor children of the parties and, subject to section 16a, for the benefit of the parties' children who are not minor children, if available at a reasonable cost.

(6) Orders concerning the support of children of the parties are enforceable as provided in the support and parenting time enforcement act, Act No. 295 of the Public Acts of 1982, being sections 552.601 to 552.650 of the Michigan Compiled Laws.

Section 2. This amendatory act shall not take effect unless Senate Bill No. 624 of the 88th Legislature is enacted into law.

Section 3. This amendatory act shall take effect June 1, 1996.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

Secretary of the Senate.

Clerk of the House of Representatives.

Approved -----

Governor.