



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2021**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 630, RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**DATE:** Friday, February 12, 2021 **TIME:** 9:15 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Via Videoconference

**TESTIFIER(S):** **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**  
(For more information, contact Brandon Flores,  
Deputy Attorney General,  
Hawaii Child Support Enforcement Agency 330-3098 )

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Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General appreciates the intent of this bill and provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to establish that every judgment for child support is enforceable until paid in full. This bill amends section 657-5.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by eliminating the presumption that child support judgments are considered paid and discharged when the child turns thirty-three years old or when the latest period provided in section 657-5, HRS, expires, whichever is later. Instead, this bill states that child support judgments are “enforceable until paid in full.”

First, while the statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken, this bill does not clearly indicate the new statutory material with underscoring. We suggest adding underscoring beneath the phrase “enforceable until paid in full.” in section 1, lines 8 and 9. Also, section 2, line 11, of the bill should be amended to include that “[N]ew statutory material is underscored.”

Second, deleting the cross-reference to section 657-5, HRS, may bring this bill into conflict with the provisions of section 657-5, which states that “. . . every judgment and decree of any court of the State shall be presumed to be paid and discharged at the expiration of ten years after the judgment or decree was rendered.” To avoid this potential conflict, we suggest adding a clause that clarifies that section 657-5.5 operates

notwithstanding the provisions of 657-5, by amending section 1, lines 3 and 4, to read,  
“Notwithstanding section 657-5 and any other law to the contrary, every judgment for  
child support, . . . .”

We respectfully ask the Committee to make these recommended amendments.

**SB-630**

Submitted on: 2/10/2021 1:53:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/12/2021 9:15:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leah	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a child who did not receive full payment from my father, I support this bill. Payment should be enforced until paid in full.

**LATE**

**SB-630**

Submitted on: 2/11/2021 4:27:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/12/2021 9:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kellie Pali	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT this bill . I think its a SMALL step in the right direction. Hawaii must take a stronger stance in supporting single parents raising their children. I am a person that would be greatly impacted if this revised bill does not go through.

My ex-husband owes in arrears of over \$48,000 to date and if this does not pass and the bill is left as is, this would be cleared when my son turns 33? This is outrageous. I struggled greatly raising my son, put him through Kamehameha Schools here on Maui from Kindergarten to graduation, school tuition alone for the 13 years exceeded over \$60,000. His father worked jobs for cash to avoid paying and then built a business to which he changed the business name every December to evade child support. He had his favorite local bank teller help him create new accounts each year, all the while not knowing she was helping him. Now that my son is 21 and in the Navy, our child support office has finally caught up to him. He requested a hearing last week to reduce the payments to \$50 a month . If he his request is granted at \$50 a month, it would take him 80 years to pay this in full ( he is 47 this year) he will not be alive

Maybe he is waiting for my son to turn 33 years old. This would mean that he would have only paid out between now and then a total of \$7,200 and the remainder of the arrears that would be wiped clean is \$40,000

This is not the message we want to promote. Children are a blessing but it does take a village to raise them and the most responsible people are the parents. We cant send a message to other dead beat parents that you can trick, evade and manipulate the system. Have children and not be responsible for them

Its time to stand up for the single parents and support them 100%. I have been blessed to move forward and find help and success along the way but I fear many moms dont have that same support and are hurting because of the lack of support from the STATE enforcement side of child support.

PLEASE I URGE YOU, lets show single parents that they matter, that raising children matter and that no one gets off the hook just because time has passed

I made sacrifices that my ex-husband could never understand and I had to live a much more difficult life in order that my son got a good, safe and loving home. Depleted my

savings, missed opportunities in past employment and the list goes on, these funds are owed to me. Please dont take that away.

Lets move forward together in supporting our single parents and show them that Hawaii is committed to sharing the responsibilty of raising a child between both parents , no matter how long it takes for one to complete their contribution.

THANK YOU