

SECTION 208. MULTIPLE CHILD-SUPPORT ORDERS FOR TWO OR MORE OBLIGEES.

In responding to multiple registrations or [petitions] for enforcement of two or more child-support orders in effect at the same time with regard to the same obligor and different individual obligees, at least one of which was issued by a tribunal of another state, a tribunal of this State shall enforce those orders in the same manner as if the multiple orders had been issued by a tribunal of this State.

SECTION 209. CREDIT FOR PAYMENTS.

Amounts collected and credited for a particular period pursuant to a support order issued by a tribunal of another state must be credited against the amounts accruing or accrued for the same period under a support order issued by the tribunal of this State.

ARTICLE 3

CIVIL PROVISIONS OF GENERAL APPLICATION

SECTION 301. PROCEEDINGS UNDER ~~[THIS]~~ [ACT].

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this [Act], this article applies to all proceedings under this [Act].
- (b) This [Act] provides for the following proceedings:
- (1) establishment of an order for spousal support or child support pursuant to Article 4;
 - (2) enforcement of a support order and income-withholding order of another state without registration pursuant to Article 5;
 - (3) registration of an order for spousal support or child support of another state for enforcement pursuant to Article 6;
 - (4) modification of an order for child support or spousal support issued by a tribunal of this State pursuant to Article 2, Part 2 ~~[B]~~;
 - (5) registration of an order for child support of another state for modification pursuant to Article 6;
 - (6) determination of parentage pursuant to Article 7; and
 - (7) assertion of jurisdiction over nonresidents pursuant to Article 2, Part 1 ~~[A]~~.
- (c) An individual [petitioner] or a support enforcement agency may commence a proceeding authorized under this [Act] by filing a [petition] in an initiating tribunal for forwarding to a

responding tribunal or by filing a [petition] or a comparable pleading directly in a tribunal of another state which has or can obtain personal jurisdiction over the [respondent].

SECTION 302. ACTION BY MINOR PARENT.

A minor parent, or a guardian or other legal representative of a minor parent, may maintain a proceeding on behalf of or for the benefit of the minor's child.

SECTION 303. APPLICATION OF LAW OF ~~[THIS]~~ STATE.

Except as otherwise provided by this [Act], a responding tribunal of thisState:

(1) shall apply the procedural and substantive law, including the rules on choice of law, generally applicable to similar proceedings originating in this State and may exercise all powers and provide all remedies available in those proceedings; and

(2) shall determine the duty of support and the amount payable in accordance with the law and support guidelines of this State.

SECTION 304. DUTIES OF INITIATING TRIBUNAL.

(a) Upon the filing of a [petition] authorized by this [Act], an initiating tribunal of this State shall forward three copies of the [petition] and its accompanying documents:

(1) to the responding tribunal or appropriate support enforcement agency in the responding state; or

(2) if the identity of the responding tribunal is unknown, to the state information agency of the responding state with a request that they be forwarded to the appropriate tribunal and that receipt be acknowledged.

(b) If a responding State has not enacted this [Act] or a law or procedure substantially similar to this [Act], a tribunal of this State may issue a certificate or other document and make findings required by the law of the responding State. If the responding State is a foreign jurisdiction, the tribunal may specify the amount of support sought and provide other documents necessary to satisfy the requirements of the responding State.

SECTION 305. DUTIES AND POWERS OF RESPONDING TRIBUNAL.

(a) When a responding tribunal of this State receives a [petition] or comparable pleading from an initiating tribunal or directly pursuant to Section 301(c) (Proceedings Under this [Act]), it shall cause the [petition] or pleading to be filed and notify the [petitioner] ~~[by first class mail]~~ where and when it was filed.

(b) A responding tribunal of this State, to the extent otherwise authorized by law, may do one or more of the following:

- (1) issue or enforce a support order, modify a child-support order, or render a judgment to determine parentage;
 - (2) order an obligor to comply with a support order, specifying the amount and the manner of compliance;
 - (3) order income withholding;
 - (4) determine the amount of any arrearages, and specify a method of payment;
 - (5) enforce orders by civil or criminal contempt, or both;
 - (6) set aside property for satisfaction of the support order;
 - (7) place liens and order execution on the obligor's property;
 - (8) order an obligor to keep the tribunal informed of the obligor's current residential address, telephone number, employer, address of employment, and telephone number at the place of employment;
 - (9) issue a [bench warrant; capias] for an obligor who has failed after proper notice to appear at a hearing ordered by the tribunal and enter the [bench warrant; capias] in any local and state computer systems for criminal warrants;
 - (10) order the obligor to seek appropriate employment by specified methods;
 - (11) award reasonable attorney's fees and other fees and costs; and
 - (12) grant any other available remedy.
- (c) A responding tribunal of this State shall include in a support order issued under this [Act], or in the documents accompanying the order, the calculations on which the support order is based.
- (d) A responding tribunal of this State may not condition the payment of a support order issued under this [Act] upon compliance by a party with provisions for visitation.
- (e) If a responding tribunal of this State issues an order under this [Act], the tribunal shall send a copy of the order ~~[by first class mail]~~ to the [petitioner] and the [respondent] and to the initiating tribunal, if any.

SECTION 306. INAPPROPRIATE TRIBUNAL.

If a [petition] or comparable pleading is received by an inappropriate tribunal of this State, it shall forward the pleading and accompanying documents to an appropriate tribunal in this State or another state and notify the [petitioner] ~~[by first class mail]~~ where and when the pleading was sent.

SECTION 307. DUTIES OF SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.

(a) A support enforcement agency of this State, upon request, shall provide services to a [petitioner] in a proceeding under this [Act].

(b) A support enforcement agency that is providing services to the [petitioner] as appropriate shall:

(1) take all steps necessary to enable an appropriate tribunal in this State or another state to obtain jurisdiction over the [respondent];

(2) request an appropriate tribunal to set a date, time, and place for a hearing;

(3) make a reasonable effort to obtain all relevant information, including information as to income and property of the parties;

(4) within [two] days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after receipt of a written notice from an initiating, responding, or registering tribunal, send a copy of the notice ~~by first class mail~~ to the [petitioner];

(5) within [two] days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after receipt of a written communication from the [respondent] or the [respondent's] attorney, send a copy of the communication ~~by first class mail~~ to the [petitioner]; and

(6) notify the [petitioner] if jurisdiction over the [respondent] cannot be obtained.

(c) This [Act] does not create or negate a relationship of attorney and client or other fiduciary relationship between a support enforcement agency or the attorney for the agency and the individual being assisted by the agency.

SECTION 308. DUTY OF [ATTORNEY GENERAL].

If the [Attorney General] determines that the support enforcement agency is neglecting or refusing to provide services to an individual, the [Attorney General] may order the agency to perform its duties under this [Act] or may provide those services directly to the individual.