

SENATE BILL 551: Child Support Cooperation Act of 2019.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate **Date:** May 1, 2019

Introduced by: Sens. Krawiec, Hise, Bishop Prepared by: Jason Moran-Bates Analysis of: First Edition Committee Staff

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 551 would require the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services to require individuals seeking Food and Nutrition Services benefits to cooperate with the Child Support Enforcement Program as a condition to eligibility for benefits.

CURRENT LAW: Currently, there is no statutory requirement that Food and Nutrition Services beneficiaries cooperate with the Child Support Enforcement Program.

BILL ANALYSIS: Senate Bill 551 would add a new Article to Chapter 110 requiring individuals who wish to receive benefits under the Food and Nutrition Services Program to cooperate with the Child Support Enforcement Program as a condition of eligibility for those benefits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would be effective January 1, 2020.

BACKGROUND: Child Support Services, under the Department of Health and Human Services, is a program designed to collect as much child support money as possible for the benefit of North Carolina's children. Its duties include enforcement of child support orders and collection and processing of child support payments.

Under 7 C.F.R. § 273.11(o), states can disqualify custodial parents from eligibility for Food and Nutrition Services benefits if they do not cooperate with state agencies charged with administering a child support enforcement program.

Under 7 C.F.R. § 273.11(p), states can disqualify non-custodial parents from eligibility for Food and Nutrition Services benefits if they do not cooperate with state agencies charged with administering a child support enforcement program.

