

AN ACT

relating to notice to an employer of a court order requiring an employee to provide medical support for the employee's child; providing penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 154.186, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 154.186. NOTICE TO EMPLOYER CONCERNING MEDICAL SUPPORT. (a) The obligee, obligor, or a child support agency may send to the employer a copy of the order requiring an employee to provide health insurance coverage for a child or may include notice of the medical support order in an order or writ of withholding sent to the employer in accordance with Chapter 158.

(b) In an appropriate Title IV-D case, the Title IV-D agency shall send to the employer the national medical support notice required under Part D, Title IV of the federal Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 651 et seq.), as amended. The notice may be used in any other suit in which an obligor is ordered to provide health insurance coverage for a child.

(c) The Title IV-D agency by rule shall establish procedures consistent with federal law for use of the national medical support notice and may prescribe forms for the efficient use of the notice. The agency shall provide the notice and forms, on request, to obligees, obligors, domestic relations offices, friends of the

1 court, and attorneys.

2 SECTION 2. Section 154.187, Family Code, is amended by
3 amending Subsections (f) and (g) and adding Subsection (h) to read
4 as follows:

5 (f) In this section, "sender" means the person sending the
6 order or notice under Section 154.186.

7 (g) An employer who fails to enroll a child, fails to
8 withhold or remit premiums or cash medical support, or
9 discriminates in hiring or employment on the basis of a medical
10 support order or notice under this subchapter shall be subject to
11 the penalties and fines in Subchapter C, Chapter 158.

12 (h) An employer who receives a national medical support
13 notice under Section 154.186 shall comply with the requirements of
14 the notice.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect July 1, 2003, if it
16 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
17 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
18 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for effect on that
19 date, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

H.B. No. 2001

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2001 was passed by the House on April 25, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2001 was passed by the Senate on May 8, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor