

1-1 By: Jones of Harris (Senate Sponsor - West) H.B. No. 1695  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2023;  
1-3 May 9, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on State  
1-4 Affairs; May 23, 2023, rereferred to Committee on Jurisprudence;  
1-5 May 23, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 4,  
1-6 Nays 0; May 23, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			

1-14 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-15 AN ACT

1-16 relating to the enforcement of an order to pay child support by  
1-17 contempt.

1-18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-19 SECTION 1. Section 157.162, Family Code, is amended by  
1-20 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

1-21 (d) The court may not find a respondent in contempt of court  
1-22 for failure to pay child support if the respondent appears at the  
1-23 hearing with:

1-24 (1) a copy of the payment record or other evidence  
1-25 satisfactory to the court showing that the respondent is current in  
1-26 the payment of child support as ordered by the court; and

1-27 (2) evidence satisfactory to the court showing that  
1-28 the respondent's failure to make timely payments was due to an error  
1-29 made by a third party or other circumstances outside the  
1-30 respondent's control.

1-31 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
1-32 to a hearing to enforce an order in a suit affecting the  
1-33 parent-child relationship that commences on or after the effective  
1-34 date of this Act. A hearing that commences before the effective  
1-35 date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the  
1-36 hearing commenced, and the former law is continued in effect for  
1-37 that purpose.

1-38 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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