HB 404 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0649
06/08

HOUSE BILL ***404***

AN ACT relative to support contempt hearings.

SPONSORS: Rep. Testerman, Merr. 3

COMMITTEE: Children and Family Law

ANALYSIS

This bill revises the paragraph order of RSA 461-A:14, XVIII relative to child support contempt orders.

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Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to support contempt hearings.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 Parental Rights and Responsibilities; Support. Amend RSA 461-A:14, I to read as follows:

I. ***Any motion for contempt of a court order regarding nonpayment of child support, if filed by a parent, shall be reviewed by the court within 30 days. When the arrearage equals or exceeds the equivalent of 8 weeks of child support under the existing order, the matter of the arrearage may be scheduled for mediation through the court within 30 days of the filing of the motion for contempt of court unless a hearing on the motion is scheduled earlier. The mediation shall not consider modification of the child support order. The court shall not order mediation if there is a finding of domestic violence as defined in RSA 173-B:1, unless all parties agree to the mediation.***

[~~I.~~] ***I-a.*** After the filing of a petition for divorce, annulment, separation, paternity, support, or allocation of parental rights and responsibilities, including petitions filed by the department of health and human services pursuant to RSA 161-B, 161-C, and 546-B, the court shall make such further decree in relation to the support and education of the children as shall be most conducive to their benefit and may order a reasonable provision for their support and education for the period of time specified in paragraphs IV, V, and XVI.

2 Repeal. RSA 461-A;14, XVIII, relative to review of motions for contempt of a court order regarding nonpayment of child support, is repealed.

3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect January 1, 2024.