

**HB 539 – AS INTRODUCED**

2013 SESSION

13-0721  
05/04

HOUSE BILL           **539**

AN ACT               relative to enforcement of child support orders.

SPONSORS:         Rep. Oigny, Rock 34; Rep. P. Schmidt, Straf 19; Rep. Burt, Hills 6; Rep. Sapareto,  
Rock 6; Rep. Itse, Rock 10; Rep. Lambert, Hills 44

COMMITTEE:       Children and Family Law

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ANALYSIS

This bill requires the court to make a finding that the obligor has the ability to pay prior to issuing a finding of contempt or imposing other sanctions.

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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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.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 Thirteen*

AN ACT                   relative to enforcement of child support orders.

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

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

3           XVIII. Any motion for contempt of a court order regarding nonpayment of child support, if  
4 filed by a parent, shall be reviewed by the court within 30 days. ***Prior to holding a party in***  
5 ***contempt or otherwise sanctioning a party for noncompliance with a support order, the***  
6 ***court shall find that the party has the ability to pay and failed, without just cause, to***  
7 ***comply with the support order.***

8           2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.