
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

AB 2195 (Celeste Rodriguez) - Child support: license suspensions

Version: August 3, 2026

Urgency: No

Hearing Date: August 10, 2026

Policy Vote: JUD. 12 - 0, HUMAN S. 5 - 0

Mandate: Yes

Consultant: Bob Franzoia

Bill Summary: AB 2195 would prohibit an occupational or professional license held by a person delinquent on child support payments from being suspended if the person's annual income is at or below 70 percent of the median income for their county of residence. The bill would authorize the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) to implement and administer these provisions through a child support services letter.

Fiscal Impact: Estimated minor, absorbable administrative workload costs to DCSS. Additional possible loss of child support revenue of an unknown but potentially significant amount, to the extent the threat of license suspension increases the likelihood of payment. (General Fund)

Background: Currently, local child support agencies (LCSA) conduct an analysis of the parent paying support (PPS) income using data income sources, affirmative verification with updated income, including information provided by the PPS. This includes information regarding a PPS' professional or recreational license when a PPS contacts the LCSA as a result of the Notice of Intent to Suspend letter.

This bill may further establish communication between the PPS and LCSA as case participants will engage with the child support program to provide proof that their income is at or below the 70 percent threshold. DCSS estimates minor workload for LCSA's to engage with PPS to verify their employment and income prior to submitting a PPS's license for suspension. In the event, LCSA cannot verify income, because a PPS is uncooperative, then the PPS's license will be submitted for suspension, if income verification sources are not available. The volume of license suspensions and volume of manual reviews is unknown at this time

Proposed Law: This bill would reduce the number of cases eligible for occupational and recreational license suspension or revocation. Updates to the Child Support Enforcement system would be required to modify State License Match processes. DCSS anticipates requiring staff training related to financial reviews that would need to be conducted by the caseworkers on license suspension and/or revocation and outreach to inform and educate the public about the changes with occupational and recreational license suspensions and/or revocations. The operational and administrative workload for DCSS is expected to be absorbed within existing resources.

Staff Comments: Limiting the use of occupational/recreational license suspensions as an enforcement tool may result in less child support collections distributed to families. It could also impact the amount of federal incentives California earns from collections performance. The extent of the impact is indeterminate at this time.