

HOUSE BILL 2421

By Watson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36;  
Title 39 and Title 40, relative to child medical  
expenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36, Chapter 6, Part 5, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

36-6-512.

(a) Where a parent with visitation rights to a child is ordered to pay for or reimburse the other parent for medical bills or medical expenses incurred as a result of injury, illness or treatment of the child, that parent shall remit payment for, or reimburse the other parent for, those expenses within thirty (30) days of a court order.

(b) In addition to any other penalty imposed by violation of a court order, where a parent violates subsection (a), that parent's visitation rights shall be suspended until that parent remits payment for the bills or expenses and compensates the other parent for any costs incurred as a result of the violation.

(c) For purposes of this section, a parent may satisfy the conditions of subsection (a) by setting up a payment plan with the provider of medical care to the child, or by setting up a payment plan with the other parent.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012, the public welfare requiring it.