

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 696

Session of
1981

INTRODUCED BY DORR, NOYE, SPITZ, ALDEN, RASCO, COCHRAN, VROON,
SEVENTY, WENGER, LETTERMAN, McVERRY, SALVATORE, DAWIDA,
MRKONIC, JACKSON, LIVENGOD, MILLER, PUNT, PRATT, TRELLO,
SERAFINI, MICOZZIE, GEIST, J. L. WRIGHT, PETERSON,
E. Z. TAYLOR, CALTAGIRONE, MADIGAN, CIMINI, DIETZ, SIRIANNI,
PERZEL AND TELEK, FEBRUARY 25, 1981

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, FEBRUARY 25, 1981

AN ACT

1 Amending Title 18 (Crimes and Offenses) of the Pennsylvania
2 Consolidated Statutes, providing for summary criminal
3 contempt proceedings for persons who willfully fail to comply
4 with lawful support orders.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Title 18, act of November 25, 1970 (P.L.707,
8 No.230) known as the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, is
9 amended by adding a section to read:

10 § 4324. Willful failure to pay support order.

11 (a) Offense defined.-- Any person who has willfully failed
12 to comply with the support order of any court within this
13 Commonwealth when he had the financial ability to do so, shall
14 be guilty of a summary offense and shall be punished by
15 imprisonment for a period not exceeding 90 days.

16 (b) Application.--This offense shall apply to all support
17 cases, whether civil or criminal in nature, and whether the

1 person charged is married, unmarried, separated or divorced.

2 (c) Jurisdiction.--Exclusive original jurisdiction to hear
3 the summary offense proceedings under this section shall be
4 vested in the courts of common pleas of the various counties.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.