

# Judiciary Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** HB-6639  
**Title:** AN ACT ENSURING TIMELY SCHEDULING OF TEMPORARY FINANCIAL SUPPORT HEARINGS IN DIVORCE AND CUSTODY PROCEEDINGS.  
**Vote Date:** 3/31/2023  
**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute  
**PH Date:** 2/27/2023  
**File No.:**

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

Judiciary Committee

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Going through a divorce isn't easy for anyone, especially for a spouse that is dependent on their significant other. This bill would require a timely hearing for alimony or support pendente lite.

## **SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE:**

The Substitute language addresses various concerns from the Judicial Branch including the requirement of the affidavit to be filed for the 60-day period to begin, removing the restrictions regarding continuing hearings until a later date, and specifies that the bill only applies to motions for initial temporary orders for child support or alimony and no other motions. The substitute language also changes the effective date to January 1, 2024 and adds that the form/affidavit is prescribed by the Chief Court Administrator.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

***Judicial Branch, External Affairs Division:** The Judicial Branch states that the concerns of the underlying bill are already being addressed with the new Motion Docket. The Judicial Branch suggests the 60-day period should begin to run only when the required affidavit has been filed if it has not been filed simultaneously with the motion. Additionally, the Judicial Branch suggests removing the restrictions regarding continuing hearings until a later date. Finally, the Judicial Branch suggests that this bill should only apply only to motions for initial temporary orders for child support or alimony. *\*The Judicial Branch's concerns were addressed, and their suggestions were added to the Substitute Language.\***

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

None expressed.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by:** Nate Kalechman

**Date:** April 14, 2023