

HB 2053 -- STATE DEBT OF NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS

SPONSOR: Butler

This bill requires the Department of Social Services to establish a pilot program to allow noncustodial parents to reduce the amount of state debt owed based on the completion of the program. The amount of state debt must not be reduced by more than \$2,000. The program does not change the noncustodial parent's child support obligations or compromise any arrears owed to the custodial parent or spouse.

The goals of the program include empowering the noncustodial parents with the necessary resources to achieve gainful employment, and encouraging noncustodial parents to be engaged with their children and to take financial responsibility for their children's well-being.

The department is required to establish the rules implementing these provisions within one year of August 28, 2016 and submit a report to the General Assembly two years and five months following the implementation of the program.