252B.7 Legal services.

1. The attorney general may perform the legal services for child support services and may enforce all laws for the recovery of child support from responsible relatives. The attorney general may file and prosecute:

a. Contempt of court proceedings to enforce any order of court pertaining to child support.

b. Cases under chapter 252A, the support of dependents law.

c. An information charging a violation of section 726.3, 726.5 or 726.6.

d. Any other lawful action which will secure collection of support for minor children.

2. For the purposes of subsection 1, the attorney general has the same power to commence, file, and prosecute any action or information in the proper jurisdiction, which the county attorney could file or prosecute in that jurisdiction. This section does not relieve a county attorney from the county attorney's duties, or the attorney general from the supervisory power of the attorney general, in the recovery of child support.

3. Child support services may contract with a county attorney, the attorney general, a clerk of the district court, or another person or agency to collect support obligations and to administer the child support services required pursuant to this chapter. Notwithstanding section 13.7, child support services may contract with private attorneys for the prosecution of civil collection and recovery cases and may pay reasonable compensation and expenses to private attorneys for the prosecution services provided.

4. An attorney employed by or under contract with child support services represents and acts exclusively on behalf of the state when providing child support enforcement services. An attorney-client relationship does not exist between the attorney and an individual party, witness, or person other than the state, regardless of the name in which the action is brought.

[C77, 79, 81, §252B.7]

83 Acts, ch 153, §18; 90 Acts, ch 1224, §8; 97 Acts, ch 175, §36, 47; 2023 Acts, ch 19, §851
Referred to in §252B.20A, 252H.4, 600B.41A
Section amended