

enforcement services except for services performed in connection with the State and Federal Income Tax intercept programs.

Since 1988, Congress has significantly increased the responsibilities of state child support enforcement agencies by steadily increasing mandated services to be performed by those agencies. However, in both 1991 and 1993 the General Assembly enacted legislation further limiting CSEA's ability to offset the costs associated with providing more sophisticated services, such as the establishment of paternity and medical support orders.

In 1992, the Department of Human Resources introduced House Bill 1193, which would have allowed CSEA to charge both custodial and non-custodial parents fees representing the costs of certain child support services. The fees would have been chargeable only to parents who could afford to pay for those services. The bill was supported by the Governor's Commission on Efficiency and Economy in Government. The Commission believed it was appropriate for clients served by certain government programs to pay fees, to the extent possible, that were commensurate with the cost of providing the service. House Bill 1193 failed in committee.

In addition to the growth in mandated responsibilities that CSEA has experienced over the past few years, Congress is currently considering legislation that may further expand the range of services that CSEA must provide. In my view, it is inadvisable to enact legislation that further limits CSEA's ability to offset costs when additional mandated responsibilities may be required in the near future.

For these reasons, I have vetoed House Bill 937.

Sincerely,  
William Donald Schaefer  
Governor

**House Bill No. 937**

AN ACT concerning

**Family Law – Child Support Enforcement – Collection of Fees**

FOR the purpose of permitting the Child Support Enforcement Administration to collect an initial application fee of not more than a certain amount for support services; repealing a provision of law that allowed the Administration to collect certain fees to defray the costs of providing support enforcement services; prohibiting the Administration from collecting fees from the child support obligee or from deducting fees from the child support payment under certain circumstances; and generally relating to the enforcement of child support obligations collection and deduction of certain fees by the Child Support Enforcement Administration under certain circumstances.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Family Law  
Section 10-110  
Annotated Code of Maryland