

SB0045S03 compared with SB0045S02

~~text~~ shows text that was in SB0045S02 but was deleted in SB0045S03.

text shows text that was not in SB0045S02 but was inserted into SB0045S03.

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Representative ~~Eric K.~~Jacob L. ~~Hutchings~~Anderegg proposes the following substitute bill:

COMPULSORY EDUCATION REVISIONS

2016 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Alvin B. Jackson

House Sponsor: Jacob L. Anderegg

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to compulsory education.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ amends penalties for a parent of a truant school-age child;
- ▶ amends requirements related to excusing a home-schooled student;
- ▶ amends provisions related to a violation of a court order by a habitual truant; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

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None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53A-11-101.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2012, Chapter 203

53A-11-102, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2014, Chapter 374

78A-6-117, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2015, Chapter 274

78A-6-1101, as renumbered and amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53A-11-101.5** is amended to read:

53A-11-101.5. Compulsory education.

(1) [~~For purposes of~~] As used in this section:

(a) "Intentionally" [~~is as~~] means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-2-103.

(b) "Recklessly" [~~is as~~] means the same as that term is defined in Section 76-2-103.

(c) "Remainder of the school year" means the portion of the school year beginning on the day after the day on which the notice of compulsory education violation described in Subsection (3) is served and ending on the last day of the school year.

(d) "School-age child" means a school-age minor under the age of 14.

(2) Except as provided in Section 53A-11-102 or 53A-11-102.5, the parent of a school-age minor shall enroll and send the school-age minor to a public or regularly established private school.

(3) A school administrator, a designee of a school administrator, a law enforcement officer acting as a school resource officer, or a truancy specialist may issue a notice of compulsory education violation to a parent of a school-age child if the school-age child is absent without a valid excuse at least five times during the school year.

(4) The notice of compulsory education violation, described in Subsection (3):

(a) shall direct the parent of the school-age child to:

(i) meet with school authorities to discuss the school-age child's school attendance problems; and

(ii) cooperate with the school board, local charter board, or school district in securing regular attendance by the school-age child;

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(b) shall designate the school authorities with whom the parent is required to meet;

(c) shall state that:

(i) it is [a class B misdemeanor] an infraction for the parent of the school-age child to intentionally or recklessly fail to:

[(i) fail to] (A) meet with the designated school authorities to discuss the school-age child's school attendance problems; or

[(ii) fail to] (B) prevent the school-age child from being absent without a valid excuse five or more times during the remainder of the school year; and

(ii) it is a class C misdemeanor for an individual who is convicted of an infraction described in Subsection (4)(c)(i) ~~4.3~~ if, after receiving an additional notice of compulsory education violation for the same child in the same school year, the individual intentionally or recklessly fails to:

(A) meet with the designated school authorities to discuss the school-age child's school attendance problems; or

(B) prevent the school-age child from being absent without a valid excuse five or more times during the remainder of the school year;

(d) shall be served on the school-age child's parent by personal service or certified mail; and

(e) may not be issued unless the school-age child has been truant at least five times during the school year.

~~[(5) It is a class B misdemeanor for a parent of a school-age minor to intentionally or recklessly fail to enroll the school-age minor in school, unless the school-age minor is exempt from enrollment under Section 53A-11-102 or 53A-11-102.5.]~~

~~[(6) It is a class B misdemeanor]~~

(5) Except as provided in Subsection (6), it is an infraction for a parent of a school-age child to, after being served with a notice of compulsory education violation in accordance with Subsections (3) and (4), intentionally or recklessly fail to:

(a) [fail to] meet with the school authorities designated in the notice of compulsory education violation to discuss the school-age child's school attendance problems; or

(b) [fail to] prevent the school-age child from being absent without a valid excuse five or more times during the remainder of the school year.

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(6) It is a class C misdemeanor for an individual who is found guilty of an infraction described in Subsection (5) if, after receiving an additional notice of compulsory education violation for the same child in the same school year, the individual intentionally or recklessly fails to:

(a) meet with the designated school authorities to discuss the school-age child's school attendance problems; or

(b) prevent the school-age child from being absent without a valid excuse five or more times during the remainder of the school year.

(7) It is a class C misdemeanor for a parent of a school-age minor to intentionally or recklessly fail to enroll the school-age minor in school, unless the school-age minor is exempt from enrollment under Section 53A-11-102 or 53A-11-102.5.

~~[(7)]~~ (8) A local school board, local charter board, or school district shall report violations of this section to the appropriate county or district attorney.

Section 2. Section 53A-11-102 is amended to read:

53A-11-102. Minors exempt from school attendance.

(1) (a) A local school board or charter school governing board may excuse a school-age minor from attendance for any of the following reasons:

(i) a school-age minor over age 16 may receive a partial release from school to enter employment, or attend a trade school, if the school-age minor has completed the eighth grade; or

(ii) on an annual basis, a school-age minor may receive a full release from attending a public, regularly established private, or part-time school or class if:

(A) the school-age minor has already completed the work required for graduation from high school, or has demonstrated mastery of required skills and competencies in accordance with Subsection 53A-15-102(1);

(B) the school-age minor is in a physical or mental condition, certified by a competent physician if required by the local school board or charter school governing board, which renders attendance inexpedient and impracticable;

(C) proper influences and adequate opportunities for education are provided in connection with the school-age minor's employment; or

(D) the district superintendent or charter school governing board has determined that a

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school-age minor over the age of 16 is unable to profit from attendance at school because of inability or a continuing negative attitude toward school regulations and discipline.

(b) A school-age minor receiving a partial release from school under Subsection (1)(a)(i) is required to attend:

(i) school part time as prescribed by the local school board or charter school governing board; or

(ii) a home school part time.

(c) In each case, evidence of reasons for granting an exemption under Subsection (1) must be sufficient to satisfy the local school board or charter school governing board.

(d) A local school board or charter school governing board that excuses a school-age minor from attendance as provided by this Subsection (1) shall issue a certificate that the minor is excused from attendance during the time specified on the certificate.

(2) (a) A local school board shall excuse a school-age minor from attendance, if the school-age minor's parent files a signed ~~[and notarized affidavit]~~ statement with the school-age minor's school district of residence, as defined in Section 53A-2-201, that:

(i) the school-age minor will attend a home school; and

(ii) the parent assumes sole responsibility for the education of the school-age minor, except to the extent the school-age minor is dual enrolled in a public school as provided in Section 53A-11-102.5.

(b) A signed ~~[and notarized affidavit]~~ statement filed in accordance with Subsection (2)(a) shall remain in effect as long as:

(i) the school-age minor attends a home school; and

(ii) the school district where the ~~[affidavit]~~ signed statement was filed remains the school-age minor's district of residence.

(c) A parent of a school-age minor who attends a home school is solely responsible for:

(i) the selection of instructional materials and textbooks;

(ii) the time, place, and method of instruction; and

(iii) the evaluation of the home school instruction.

(d) A local school board may not:

(i) require a parent of a school-age minor who attends a home school to maintain records of instruction or attendance;

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(ii) require credentials for individuals providing home school instruction;

(iii) inspect home school facilities; or

(iv) require standardized or other testing of home school students.

(e) Upon the request of a parent, a local school board shall identify the knowledge, skills, and competencies a student is recommended to attain by grade level and subject area to assist the parent in achieving college and career readiness through home schooling.

(f) A local school board that excuses a school-age minor from attendance as provided by this Subsection (2) shall annually issue a certificate stating that the school-age minor is excused from attendance for the specified school year.

(g) A local school board shall issue a certificate excusing a school-age minor from attendance:

(i) within 30 days after receipt of a signed ~~[and notarized affidavit]~~ statement filed by the school-age minor's parent pursuant to Subsection (2); and

(ii) on or before August 1 each year thereafter unless:

(A) the school-age minor enrolls in a school within the school district;

(B) the school-age minor's parent or guardian notifies the school district that the school-age minor no longer attends a home school; or

(C) the school-age minor's parent or guardian notifies the school district that the school-age minor's school district of residence has changed.

(3) A parent who files a signed ~~[and notarized affidavit]~~ statement as provided in Subsection (2)(a) is exempt from the ~~[application of Subsections 53A-11-101.5(2), (5), and (6)]~~ requirements described in Section 53A-11-101.5.

(4) Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit or discourage voluntary cooperation, resource sharing, or testing opportunities between a school or school district and a parent or guardian of a minor attending a home school.

Section ~~{2}~~3. Section 78A-6-117 is amended to read:

78A-6-117. Adjudication of jurisdiction of juvenile court -- Disposition of cases -- Enumeration of possible court orders -- Considerations of court -- Obtaining DNA sample.

(1) (a) When a minor is found to come within the provisions of Section 78A-6-103, the court shall so adjudicate. The court shall make a finding of the facts upon which it bases its

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jurisdiction over the minor. However, in cases within the provisions of Subsection 78A-6-103(1), findings of fact are not necessary.

(b) If the court adjudicates a minor for a crime of violence or an offense in violation of Title 76, Chapter 10, Part 5, Weapons, it shall order that notice of the adjudication be provided to the school superintendent of the district in which the minor resides or attends school. Notice shall be made to the district superintendent within three days of the adjudication and shall include:

(i) the specific offenses for which the minor was adjudicated; and

(ii) if available, if the victim:

(A) resides in the same school district as the minor; or

(B) attends the same school as the minor.

(2) Upon adjudication the court may make the following dispositions by court order:

(a) (i) The court may place the minor on probation or under protective supervision in the minor's own home and upon conditions determined by the court, including compensatory service as provided in Subsection (2)(m)(iii).

(ii) The court may place the minor in state supervision with the probation department of the court, under the legal custody of:

(A) the minor's parent or guardian;

(B) the Division of Juvenile Justice Services; or

(C) the Division of Child and Family Services.

(iii) If the court orders probation or state supervision, the court shall direct that notice of its order be provided to designated persons in the local law enforcement agency and the school or transferee school, if applicable, that the minor attends. The designated persons may receive the information for purposes of the minor's supervision and student safety.

(iv) Any employee of the local law enforcement agency and the school that the minor attends who discloses the court's order of probation is not:

(A) civilly liable except when the disclosure constitutes fraud or willful misconduct as provided in Section 63G-7-202; and

(B) civilly or criminally liable except when the disclosure constitutes a knowing violation of Section 63G-2-801.

(b) The court may place the minor in the legal custody of a relative or other suitable

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person, with or without probation or protective supervision, but the juvenile court may not assume the function of developing foster home services.

(c) (i) The court may:

(A) vest legal custody of the minor in the Division of Child and Family Services, Division of Juvenile Justice Services, or the Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health; and

(B) order the Department of Human Services to provide dispositional recommendations and services.

(ii) For minors who may qualify for services from two or more divisions within the Department of Human Services, the court may vest legal custody with the department.

(iii) (A) A minor who is committed to the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services on grounds other than abuse or neglect is subject to the provisions of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part 4, Minors in Custody on Grounds Other than Abuse or Neglect, and Title 62A, Chapter 4a, Part 2a, Minors in Custody on Grounds other than Abuse or Neglect.

(B) Before the court entering an order to place a minor in the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services on grounds other than abuse or neglect, the court shall provide the division with notice of the hearing no later than five days before the time specified for the hearing so the division may attend the hearing.

(C) Before committing a child to the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services, the court shall make a finding as to what reasonable efforts have been attempted to prevent the child's removal from the child's home.

(d) (i) The court may commit a minor to the Division of Juvenile Justice Services for secure confinement.

(ii) A minor under the jurisdiction of the court solely on the ground of abuse, neglect, or dependency under Subsection 78A-6-103(1)(c) may not be committed to the Division of Juvenile Justice Services.

(e) The court may commit a minor, subject to the court retaining continuing jurisdiction over the minor, to the temporary custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice Services for observation and evaluation for a period not to exceed 45 days, which period may be extended up to 15 days at the request of the director of the Division of Juvenile Justice Services.

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(f) (i) The court may commit a minor to a place of detention or an alternative to detention for a period not to exceed 30 days subject to the court retaining continuing jurisdiction over the minor. This commitment may be stayed or suspended upon conditions ordered by the court.

(ii) This Subsection (2)(f) applies only to a minor adjudicated for:

(A) an act which if committed by an adult would be a criminal offense; or

(B) except as provided in Subsection 78A-6-1101(3), contempt of court under Section 78A-6-1101.

(g) The court may vest legal custody of an abused, neglected, or dependent minor in the Division of Child and Family Services or any other appropriate person in accordance with the requirements and procedures of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part 3, Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Proceedings.

(h) The court may place a minor on a ranch or forestry camp, or similar facility for care and also for work, if possible, if the person, agency, or association operating the facility has been approved or has otherwise complied with all applicable state and local laws. A minor placed in a forestry camp or similar facility may be required to work on fire prevention, forestation and reforestation, recreational works, forest roads, and on other works on or off the grounds of the facility and may be paid wages, subject to the approval of and under conditions set by the court.

(i) (i) The court may order a minor to repair, replace, or otherwise make restitution for damage or loss caused by the minor's wrongful act, including costs of treatment as stated in Section 78A-6-321 and impose fines in limited amounts.

(ii) The court may also require a minor to reimburse an individual, entity, or governmental agency who offered and paid a reward to a person or persons for providing information resulting in a court adjudication that the minor is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court due to the commission of a criminal offense.

(iii) If a minor is returned to this state under the Interstate Compact on Juveniles, the court may order the minor to make restitution for costs expended by any governmental entity for the return.

(j) The court may issue orders necessary for the collection of restitution and fines ordered by the court, including garnishments, wage withholdings, and executions.

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(k) (i) The court may through its probation department encourage the development of employment or work programs to enable minors to fulfill their obligations under Subsection (2)(i) and for other purposes considered desirable by the court.

(ii) Consistent with the order of the court, the probation officer may permit a minor found to be within the jurisdiction of the court to participate in a program of work restitution or compensatory service in lieu of paying part or all of the fine imposed by the court.

(l) (i) In violations of traffic laws within the court's jurisdiction, the court may, in addition to any other disposition authorized by this section:

(A) restrain the minor from driving for periods of time the court considers necessary; and

(B) take possession of the minor's driver license.

(ii) The court may enter any other disposition under Subsection (2)(l)(i). However, the suspension of driving privileges for an offense under Section 78A-6-606 is governed only by Section 78A-6-606.

(m) (i) When a minor is found within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court under Section 78A-6-103 because of violating Section 58-37-8, Title 58, Chapter 37a, Utah Drug Paraphernalia Act, or Title 58, Chapter 37b, Imitation Controlled Substances Act, the court shall, in addition to any fines or fees otherwise imposed, order that the minor perform a minimum of 20 hours, but no more than 100 hours, of compensatory service. Satisfactory completion of an approved substance abuse prevention or treatment program may be credited by the court as compensatory service hours.

(ii) When a minor is found within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court under Section 78A-6-103 because of a violation of Section 32B-4-409 or Subsection 76-9-701(1), the court may, upon the first adjudication, and shall, upon a second or subsequent adjudication, order that the minor perform a minimum of 20 hours, but no more than 100 hours of compensatory service, in addition to any fines or fees otherwise imposed. Satisfactory completion of an approved substance abuse prevention or treatment program may be credited by the court as compensatory service hours.

(iii) When a minor is found within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court under Section 78A-6-103 because of a violation of Section 76-6-106 or 76-6-206 using graffiti, the court may order the minor to clean up graffiti created by the minor or any other person at a time and place

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within the jurisdiction of the court. Compensatory service required under this section may be performed in the presence and under the direct supervision of the minor's parent or legal guardian. The parent or legal guardian shall report completion of the order to the court. The minor or the minor's parent or legal guardian, if applicable, shall be responsible for removal costs as determined under Section 76-6-107, unless waived by the court for good cause. The court may also require the minor to perform other alternative forms of restitution or repair to the damaged property pursuant to Subsection 77-18-1(8).

(A) For a first adjudication, the court may require the minor to clean up graffiti for not less than eight hours.

(B) For a second adjudication, the court may require the minor to clean up graffiti for not less than 16 hours.

(C) For a third adjudication, the court may require the minor to clean up graffiti for not less than 24 hours.

(n) (i) Subject to Subsection (2)(n)(iii), the court may order that a minor:

(A) be examined or treated by a physician, surgeon, psychiatrist, or psychologist; or

(B) receive other special care.

(ii) For purposes of receiving the examination, treatment, or care described in Subsection (2)(n)(i), the court may place the minor in a hospital or other suitable facility.

(iii) In determining whether to order the examination, treatment, or care described in Subsection (2)(n)(i), the court shall consider:

(A) the desires of the minor;

(B) if the minor is under the age of 18, the desires of the parents or guardian of the minor; and

(C) whether the potential benefits of the examination, treatment, or care outweigh the potential risks and side-effects, including behavioral disturbances, suicidal ideation, brain function impairment, or emotional or physical harm resulting from the compulsory nature of the examination, treatment, or care.

(iv) The Division of Child and Family Services shall take reasonable measures to notify a parent or guardian of any non-emergency health treatment or care scheduled for a child, shall include the parent or guardian as fully as possible in making health care decisions for the child, and shall defer to the parent's or guardian's reasonable and informed decisions

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regarding the child's health care to the extent that the child's health and well being are not unreasonably compromised by the parent's or guardian's decision.

(v) The Division of Child and Family Services shall notify the parent or guardian of a child within five business days after a child in the custody of the Division of Child and Family Services receives emergency health care or treatment.

(vi) The Division of Child and Family Services shall use the least restrictive means to accomplish a compelling interest in the care and treatment of a child described in this Subsection (2)(n).

(o) (i) The court may appoint a guardian for the minor if it appears necessary in the interest of the minor, and may appoint as guardian a public or private institution or agency in which legal custody of the minor is vested.

(ii) In placing a minor under the guardianship or legal custody of an individual or of a private agency or institution, the court shall give primary consideration to the welfare of the minor. When practicable, the court may take into consideration the religious preferences of the minor and of a child's parents.

(p) (i) In support of a decree under Section 78A-6-103, the court may order reasonable conditions to be complied with by a minor's parents or guardian, a minor, a minor's custodian, or any other person who has been made a party to the proceedings. Conditions may include:

- (A) parent-time by the parents or one parent;
- (B) restrictions on the minor's associates;
- (C) restrictions on the minor's occupation and other activities; and
- (D) requirements to be observed by the parents or custodian.

(ii) A minor whose parents or guardians successfully complete a family or other counseling program may be credited by the court for detention, confinement, or probation time.

(q) The court may order the child to be committed to the physical custody of a local mental health authority, in accordance with the procedures and requirements of Title 62A, Chapter 15, Part 7, Commitment of Persons Under Age 18 to Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health.

(r) (i) The court may make an order committing a minor within the court's jurisdiction to the Utah State Developmental Center if the minor has an intellectual disability in accordance with the provisions of Title 62A, Chapter 5, Part 3, Admission to an Intermediate Care Facility

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for People with an Intellectual Disability.

(ii) The court shall follow the procedure applicable in the district courts with respect to judicial commitments to the Utah State Developmental Center when ordering a commitment under Subsection (2)(r)(i).

(s) The court may terminate all parental rights upon a finding of compliance with the provisions of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part 5, Termination of Parental Rights Act.

(t) The court may make any other reasonable orders for the best interest of the minor or as required for the protection of the public, except that a child may not be committed to jail or prison.

(u) The court may combine the dispositions listed in this section if they are compatible.

(v) Before depriving any parent of custody, the court shall give due consideration to the rights of parents concerning their child. The court may transfer custody of a minor to another person, agency, or institution in accordance with the requirements and procedures of Title 78A, Chapter 6, Part 3, Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Proceedings.

(w) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(y)(i), an order under this section for probation or placement of a minor with an individual or an agency shall include a date certain for a review of the case by the court. A new date shall be set upon each review.

(x) In reviewing foster home placements, special attention shall be given to making adoptable children available for adoption without delay.

(y) (i) The juvenile court may enter an order of permanent custody and guardianship with an individual or relative of a child where the court has previously acquired jurisdiction as a result of an adjudication of abuse, neglect, or dependency. The juvenile court may enter an order for child support on behalf of the child against the natural or adoptive parents of the child.

(ii) Orders under Subsection (2)(y)(i):

(A) shall remain in effect until the child reaches majority;

(B) are not subject to review under Section 78A-6-118; and

(C) may be modified by petition or motion as provided in Section 78A-6-1103.

(iii) Orders permanently terminating the rights of a parent, guardian, or custodian and permanent orders of custody and guardianship do not expire with a termination of jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

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(3) In addition to the dispositions described in Subsection (2), when a minor comes within the court's jurisdiction, the minor may be given a choice by the court to serve in the National Guard in lieu of other sanctions, provided:

- (a) the minor meets the current entrance qualifications for service in the National Guard as determined by a recruiter, whose determination is final;
- (b) the minor is not under the jurisdiction of the court for any act that:
 - (i) would be a felony if committed by an adult;
 - (ii) is a violation of Title 58, Chapter 37, Utah Controlled Substances Act; or
 - (iii) was committed with a weapon; and
- (c) the court retains jurisdiction over the minor under conditions set by the court and agreed upon by the recruiter or the unit commander to which the minor is eventually assigned.

(4) (a) A DNA specimen shall be obtained from a minor who is under the jurisdiction of the court as described in Subsection 53-10-403(3). The specimen shall be obtained by designated employees of the court or, if the minor is in the legal custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice Services, then by designated employees of the division under Subsection 53-10-404(5)(b).

(b) The responsible agency shall ensure that employees designated to collect the saliva DNA specimens receive appropriate training and that the specimens are obtained in accordance with accepted protocol.

(c) Reimbursements paid under Subsection 53-10-404(2)(a) shall be placed in the DNA Specimen Restricted Account created in Section 53-10-407.

(d) Payment of the reimbursement is second in priority to payments the minor is ordered to make for restitution under this section and treatment under Section 78A-6-321.

Section ~~3~~4. Section **78A-6-1101** is amended to read:

78A-6-1101. Violation of order of court -- Contempt -- Penalty.

(1) Any person who willfully violates or refuses to obey any order of the court may be proceeded against for contempt of court.

(2) Any person 18 years of age or older found in contempt of court may be punished in accordance with Section 78B-6-310.

(3) (a) ~~Any~~ Except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), a person younger than 18 years of age found in contempt of court may be punished by any disposition permitted under Section

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78A-6-117, except for commitment to a secure facility.

(b) The court may stay or suspend all or part of the punishment upon compliance with conditions imposed by the court.

(c) The court may not order detention for, or place in state custody, a minor found in contempt of court based on a violation of orders directly related to a citation for habitual truancy.

(4) The court may enforce orders of fines, fees, or restitution through garnishments, wage withholdings, supplementary proceedings, or executions.