



CHAPTER 50

ARTICLE 2 - EXPEDITED PROCESS FOR CHILD SUPPORT CASES

N.C.G.S. § 50-31.

Definitions.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	No amendment history on record	21 September 2026, 04:22 UTC	2e908cd67ae0cd30890f0bea - 4e72dfb4dac72f3d52f3544a - f61be50f4f5f0ac8

As used in this Article, unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

"Child support case" means the part of any civil or criminal action or proceeding, whether intrastate or interstate, that involves a claim for the establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation.

"Dispose" or "disposition" of a child support case means the entry of an order in a child support case that:

- a.Dismisses the claim for establishment or enforcement of the child support obligation; or
- b.Establishes a child support obligation, either temporary or permanent, and directs how that obligation is to be satisfied; or
- c.Orders a particular child support enforcement remedy.

"Expedited process" means a procedure for having child support orders established and enforced by a magistrate or clerk who has been designated as a child support hearing officer pursuant to this Article.

"Federal expedited process requirement" means the provision in Title IV, Part D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. § 666(a)(2), that requires as a condition of the receipt of federal funds that a state have laws that require the use of federally defined expedited processes for obtaining and enforcing child support orders.

"Filing" means the date the defendant is served with a pleading that seeks establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation, or the date written notice or a pleading is sent to a party seeking establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation.

"Hearing officer" or "child support hearing officer" means a clerk or assistant clerk of superior court or a magistrate who has been designated pursuant to this Article to hear and enter orders in child support cases.

"Initiating party" means the party, the attorney for a party, a child support enforcement agency established pursuant to Title IV, Part D of the Social Security Act, or the clerk of superior court who initiates an action, proceeding, or procedure as allowed or required by law for the establishment or enforcement of a child support obligation. (1985 (Reg. Sess., 1986), c. 993, s. 1; 1987, c. 346.)

END OF SECTION TEXT

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APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50-31 (2026).

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