



MEDIA RELEASE

**Hon. John Hatzistergos MLC
Attorney General
Minister for Industrial Relations**

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PARLIAMENT PASSES COURT ORDER DEBT REPAYMENT LAW

Legislation to reduce financial hardship for people whose wages are deducted as part of court orders to pay debts has been passed by the NSW Parliament, said Attorney General John Hatzistergos.

“It is important that people who are subject to these orders still have enough money for basic essentials including food, clothing and shelter,” Mr Hatzistergos said.

Currently, \$305.12 of a person’s weekly wage is protected from a garnishee order, which is a court order that enables a creditor to automatically receive part of a debtor’s salary.

Mr Hatzistergos said the Rees Government would increase the protected amount by 25% to \$381.40 per week.

Under the new law the protected portion of a person’s salary will now be the same as the weekly payment granted to a person receiving full workers compensation.

“Anything less than this amount could cause unreasonable hardship to people experiencing financial difficulty, especially during these uncertain economic times.”

The new law provides a balance between the rights of creditors and indebted people.