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Workplace Standards Administration
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
WAGE AND HOUR AND PUBLIC CONTRACTS DIVISIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20210

DEC 18 1970

CCPA

This is in response to your letter of November 9, 1970, concerning the application of Title III of the Consumer Credit Protection Act.

You ask whether the amounts deducted pursuant to a court order for the support of an employee's family are to be considered as "amounts required by law to be withheld" within the meaning of section 302(b).

We regard a court order for the support of an employee's family in the same light as an ordinary creditor-debtor garnishment. Accordingly, we do not consider a support order as an amount "required by law to be withheld".

In the situation you cite, the disposable earnings would be \$100 (gross weekly wages less taxes). Ordinarily, under the formula in section 303(a), \$25 could be withheld under this Act. However, since the restrictions of the section do not apply to court orders for the support of any person, \$30 may legally be withheld in this case. This is more than the amount that may be garnished in one week under section 303(a), and no additional withholding may be made for a garnishment order issued by another court.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Moran
Administrator