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DA Feazell Supports Project 'Pay Up'

Attorney General Jim Mattox kicked off "Project Pay-Up" Wednesday and McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell says it is an especially appropriate time to bring the needed attention to the absent parent's obligation to pay child support.

The Texas State and House of Representatives passed resolutions declaring August "Child Support Month" in Texas.

"Project Pay-Up" is a statewide effort to give parents the chance to make their delinquent child support payments. The month-long project will make a strong push for these parents to pay up in August.

"It is important that these parents meet their responsibilities," said District Attorney Feazell, "especially

with the school year about to begin. The kids who need support deserve it, and parents are obligated to pay."

Mattox said that failure to pay child support is a form of child abuse. "We must start 'Child Support Month' in Texas off with a clear signal that the responsibility for child support belongs to both parents," Mattox said.

"Child support in Texas must improve, and I am committed to its improvement," Mattox added. "I will use all of the enforcement tools of the Attorney General's Office to enforce child support laws."

The Attorney General's Office took over the Child Support Program in September, 1983. Since that time, Texas collections have increased 41%.