

Child Support Advisory Committee Special Meeting

Monday, May 13, 2013, 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

By video conference and teleconference

Committee Members Present: Chair Zeophus (Zee) Williams, Irene Curran, The Honorable Judge Andrea Schleifer, Margaret Stapleton, The Honorable Judge Pamela Loza, Diane Potts w/ David Hopkins, Sidney Mathias, Nicole McKinnon, Erin Bognar, Ada Skyles (by phone), and Frank Kopecky

Committee Members that attempted to phone it, but could not due to technical issues: Margaret Bennett, Sequane Lawrence, The Honorable Judge Jay Ukena, Mike Vickers, and Richard Zuckerman

Committee Members Absent: The Honorable Patricia Bellock, Mike Moore (designee for The Honorable Dorothy Brown, Juanita Sanders (designee for Michelle Saddler, and The Honorable Cynthia Soto

HFS Staff Present: Julie Hamos, Yvette Perez-Trevino, Norris Stevenson, Mary Morrow, Mary Bartolomucci, Charlie Koonce, Gina Hemphill, and Sharon Shapiro

Public Guests: No members of the public appeared at this meeting

- **Welcome and Introductions by Chair Zeophus “Zee” Williams**
Chair Williams welcomed meeting participants and asked all present to introduce themselves.
- **Gross vs. Net Income History:**
Diane Potts spoke regarding the background and CSAC reconsidering Gross income. Power Point presentation using a Gross to Net income conversion. Default uniform way to calculate tax deductions. Tax chart would allow HFS to find Gross vs. Net without going to the General Assembly. Other options were using calculations to reach the number. It would be easy to calculate Net Standardized proposal. It would take into consideration who gets the child as a dependent/tax deduction.
- **Standardized Tax Amounts & Individualized Tax Amounts:**
Diane Potts and David Hopkins spoke. The standardized tax approach uses a simple statutory calculation method for all cases unless the parties opt for individualized tax calculations. In the new income shares legislation, net income will be defined as gross income minus either the standardized tax amount or the individualized tax amount. The standardized tax amount will be the default rule, although it was suggested that the term "default" not be used due to possible negative connotation. The Pros & Cons of Standardized Net Income were discussed and case studies included in the power point presentation were considered. Each year, HFS will promulgate a chart that computes net income by deducting the standardized tax amount from gross income for various annual income levels. HFS chart will reflect annual changes to state and federal tax codes.

- **Questions & Answers (Info) Session:**
 - ✓ Pros and cons of Gross Income & Net income are in the power point presentation (handout).
 - ✓ Between the two options, *standardized* net is the easier approach.
 - ✓ Gross to Net conversion will save the state a large amount of money.
 - ✓ Erin Bognar suggested that there be a summary from 2010; where we came from and where we are now.
 - ✓ Standardized Net will be more detailed w/ more options.
 - ✓ Hon. Schleifer recommended revisions to draft 750 ILCS 5/505.

- **Questions:**
 - Will pro-se litigants understand method used to determine Standardized Net Income.
 - Who will inform pro-se litigants of options stated in draft 750 ILCS 5/505 (c)(2)(A) - (C).
 - How will Illinois Income Shares Child Support Guidelines address:
 - Parents with support orders for other children who are not children in the case;
 - Prior family or prior support order which has priority;
 - Will credit be given for children who are not children in the case & reside with a parent in the case.

 - CSAC members made the following recommendations:
 - Revise draft 750 ILCS 5/505(c)(1)(B) to replace annual income levels "up to \$100,000" with "above \$100,000";
 - HFS notify parties HFS chart computing net income is on HFS website.

 - Vote on "determination of income to use in an Income Shares Model" deferred to June 10, 2013 CSAC meeting.

- **Public Comments** – No public comments

- **Closing**

- **Meeting Adjourned**