

Child Support Advisory Committee Meeting

August 13, 2019 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

By video conference and teleconference

Committee Members Present:

Darryl Apperton (via phone), Maria Barlow (via phone), Maggie Bennett, The Honorable Kelly Burke (via phone), Turyia Clay (for The Honorable Dorothy Brown via phone), Trent Cameron, Howard Feldman, Mick Gerhardt (via phone), Dr. Kirk Harris, Grace Hou, Elizabeth Lingle, The Honorable Judge Pamela Loza, Christina Mahoney, The Honorable Sidney Mathias, Nicole McKinnon, Phil Mohr (via phone), Jessica Patchik, Juanita Sanders (via phone), The Honorable Judge Charles Smith (via phone), Vickie Smith, and Richard Zuckerman

Committee Members Absent:

The Honorable La Shawn Ford, Geraldine Franco, The Honorable Lindsay Parkhurst, Christine Raffaele, and Derrick White

HFS Staff Present: Mary Bartolomucci, Gina Hemphill, Irene Curran, Bryan Tribble, Ralph Abt, Sharon Shapiro, Hilary Felton, Nicole McKinnon, Jeremiah Stephan, Shannon Stokes and Zeophus (Zee) Williams

Public Guests: Safiya Felters

- **Welcome to CSAC members – Richard Zuckerman**
 - Roll call of committee members – Richard Zuckerman
 - Introduction of state employees and members of the public
 - All committee members, attendees and members of the public were asked to sign in
 - Approval of meeting notes from the May 14, 2019 CSAC Meeting

- **Ethics Training for CSAC Committee Members – Shannon Stokes**

Shannon Stokes talked to the committee about the importance of taking Ethics Training. Shannon will be providing Gina Hemphill with the needed information and Gina will provide it to the committee members. This is not currently offered on line. The training will be sent as a hard copy along with instructions. Judges and Legislators do not have to do this ethics training. All other members must do the training.

- **Clean Slate Subcommittee – Kirk Harris and Bryan Tribble**

Dr. Kirk Harris reiterated the general principles used to guide the work and establish the goals of the Clean Slate Subcommittee. Dr. Harris also explained the development of the legislative proposal presented to the Committee. He walked the Committee through the draft legislative proposal, explaining each component, and the reasoning behind its inclusion. He talked about the role debt plays as it relates to growing inequality, as well as discussing parental engagement, safety, security, and right size orders. Parenting is comprised of both financial and nurturing elements.

Maggie mentioned that Judge Loza and Judge Dickler would be reviewing this proposal at the ISBA family law section council. They will have comments for future meetings.

Nicole McKinnon commented that the proposal for clean slate does not address adults with emancipated children. Where and how does this group fit in?

Judge Chuck Smith commented on the expungement issue. Asking if we know how many of these cases we are expecting to get. After January 1st, all of the cannabis expungements will be added to the court calls.

Maggie mentioned that we need to put something in the legislation that prevents third party agencies going after child support and taking advantage of individuals that are already vulnerable. She stated that some will game the system. Syd Mathias talked about who will certify a program. How will we know if it is legitimate?

Discussion of Possible Implementation Phase: Jessica Patchik stated that as one who works in the court room with IV-D parents, # 12 makes her uncomfortable.

Discussion continued with the consensus emerging that implementation would take time as consideration needs to be given to addressing DCSS resources and staffing, the process utilized to make an assessment of the NCP's barriers, and the entities DCSS would recognize as service providers to assist the NCPs in overcoming the barriers that have been identified. Once these questions are resolved, the Committee would have to make sure we address the fact that the primary reason for denial in the current iteration of Clean Slate is that the requisite paperwork is not returned.

Based on some of the implementation hurdles, Bryan mentioned that the workgroup had begun to consider additional options that would align with the established goals of the subcommittee but could possibly be more easily implemented. While there was nothing definitive at this time, the subcommittee hoped to have additional options for discussion in the future.

Members were asked to provide comments to Bryan Tribble and/or Kirk Harris by next meeting.

- **Shared Parenting Threshold Subcommittee – Howard Feldman**

Howard Feldman stated that the subcommittee is struggling to come up with alternatives to do away with the 146 overnights threshold. They have researched several other states to see how they handle the number of overnights. They have not yet reached a conclusion and continue to work with concepts regarding the numbers. The subcommittee will continue gathering data moving forward. If other committee members would like to be on this subcommittee, please contact Richard Zuckerman.

- **Child Support Legislation Update – Richard Zuckerman**

Pending legislation: SB 1473 regarding driver's license suspension. Bryan Tribble indicated law was effective upon signature. Before this legislation when someone lost their driver's license twice they were unable to get it reinstated unless they paid the full amount that was due. We are now able to work with them.

- **New Business**

No new business presented

- **Public Comment**

Safiya Felters attended the meeting as a member of the public and a representative of AFSME union president. Safiya took issue with the CSAC public meeting notice. Gina voiced that the meeting notices were correctly posted in the proper buildings. She also talked about literacy rate being low in Cook County and that we need competent staff to assist.

- **Closing**

Motion made to adjourn, motion seconded

- **Meeting Adjourned**