

Child Support Advisory Committee Meeting

October 13, 2020 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

WebEx Meeting or Conference Call

Committee Members Present via WebEx/phone:

Darryl Apperton, Maria Barlow, Maggie Bennett, Daun Porter (for The Honorable Dorothy Brown), Howard Feldman, Geraldine Franco, Dr. Kirk Harris, LaTanya Law-Fontain (for Secretary Grace Hou), Elizabeth Lingle, Honorable Judge Pamela Loza, Christina Mahoney, The Honorable Sidney Mathias, Nicole McKinnon, Phillip Mohr, Jessica Patchik, Christine Raffaele, Richard Zuckerman

Committee Members Absent:

The Honorable Kelly Burke, Trent Cameron, The Honorable La Shawn Ford, The Honorable Lindsay Parkhurst, The Honorable Judge Charles Smith, Vickie Smith, Derrick White

HFS Staff Present via phone:

Ralph Abt, Mary Bartolomucci, Irene Curran, Hilary Felton, Gina Hemphill, Sharon Shapiro, Bryan Tribble, Anna Leonard, and Kim Rossini

Public Guests: Jim Weddigen, Rodney Hodge, and Michael Gerhardt

- **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 announce their name before speaking and to mute their phone if they are not speaking.
 - Approval of July 14, 2020 meeting notes
Motion made to approve. Motion was seconded, Notes were passed.

- **Interest Removal Update – Mary Bartolomucci & Bryan Tribble**
 - DCSS removed the “payment in full” requirement on driver’s licenses suspended for the 2nd time. This became effective upon signing which was in August of 2019. Since that time, we have been able to work with many NCPs to help them get their driver’s license back.
 - The other part of this bill was that it allowed the department to decide whether or not the IVD program would charge interest reflexively.
 - I want to stress that this change did not change that interest does accrue on delinquent child support just that we could make the decision not to automatically accrue on our system.
 - This Senate bill was signed into law on August 9, 2019 and the resulting rules were approved by JCAR this week. And will be effective January 1, 2021. This provides for certain criteria to be met for DCSS to assist in obtaining interest on a client’s past due balance.

- Tasks that DCSS has been working on to prepare for removal of interest from our system effective January 1, 2021:
 - Identification of all documents, reports, communications etc. that currently need to have interest language removed or updated.
 - Customer Service Workgroup
 - Updated all Customer Service Scripts
 - FAQs for website
 - Legal Workgroup
 - Prepare for communication and training for our stakeholders which include our legal partners (SA and AG), as well as, Judiciary and Bar Associations
 - Updating forms and petitions
 - Accounting Workgroup
 - One of the biggest changes will be that the department will no longer be calculating interest for the courts/legal partners etc.

- Going forward
 - Will work closely with stakeholders on the change to address any issues.
 - Working on a potential press release
- Kirk Harris thanked Mary and Bryan for their leadership and the work that they do for families.
- Judge Loza asked to clarify that they will no longer be calculating interest in most cases.
- Kirk Harris asked if this was forward looking only.
- Mary stated that people would have to go to court to have interest set. DCSS would no longer enforce it and it would no longer appear on credit reports. Come January 1st, anything that is not a judgement would be removed.
- Bryan stated that the vast majority have not had an adjudication on their cases. The majority of those on our system will benefit.

- **Quadrennial Review Discussion – Bryan Tribble**
Statute Review (Margaret Bennett and Hon. Pam Loza)
 - At this point, would be reviewing for clear areas of conflict between sections of the IMDMA and any other related statutes that might conflict with the establishment or modification of support obligation.
 - Public Input subcommittee issues identified and approved by CSAC would funnel to this subcommittee to propose/draft solutions

1. Alternatively, depending on the complexity of the issue these may have to go to a second subcommittee to fully review an individual issue, e.g., if it was determined we wanted to take a closer look at our shared parenting formula that body of work may benefit from a secondary subcommittee to review so that the Statute Review subcommittee can continue to make progress.
 - Deviation and Default Review subcommittee issues identified and approved by CSAC would funnel to this subcommittee to propose/draft solutions
- **Public Input (Need someone with a passion and desire to lead this and also for those to be on the subcommittee with the desire and ability to lead/co-lead meetings, take notes, or transcribe recordings) aids in legitimacy and transparency, more in the doing... (Margaret Bennett, Hon. Pam Loza, Dr. Kirk Harris)**
 - Draft questionnaire proposed to be provided to participants following court appearance
 1. Finalize first draft
 2. Determine method of delivery, e.g., hard copy if personal appearance, but e-copy to email provided if Zoom or other e-appearance
 3. Analyze and Summarize Data
 - Pre-review outreach (Town Hall?)
 1. Draft discussion questions for approval of the CSAC
 2. Determine method of outreach for discussion and approval of the CSAC
 3. Determine format of outreach for discussion and approval of the CSAC
 4. Provide summary of outreach meetings
 5. Provide recommendations for discussion and decision by the CSAC
 1. If approved to move forward, would funnel to Statute Review or one of its related subcommittees
 - Post-review outreach
 1. Determine whether we will keep this piece in house or if it might need to be outsourced
 1. If outsourced, would flow to Procurement subcommittee
 2. Draft discussion questions for approval of the CSAC
 1. Could be done in concert with a contractor, if we go down procurement path
 3. Determine method of outreach for discussion and approval of the CSAC
 1. Could be done in concert with a contractor if we go down procurement path
 4. Determine format of outreach for discussion and approval of the CSAC
 1. Could be done in concert with a contractor if we go down procurement path

5. Provide summary of outreach meetings
 1. This may be done by contractor if we go down the procurement path
6. Provide recommendations for discussion and decision by the CSAC
 1. Have we addressed the major issues, if any identified/addressed, within our pre-determined scope and in line with our guiding principles?
 1. If yes, complete drafts and work through implementation of changes
 2. If no, then work flows back to appropriate subcommittee or new subcommittee created

- **Deviation and Default Review**

- Deviation (is there a way to capture the data relative to deviations requested but denied?)
 1. Analyze and Summarize Data
 1. What is the rate of deviation in IL?
 2. What are the most common reasons for deviation?
 3. When deviating, what is the breakdown of the percentage of deviation upwards or downwards, e.g., is it 50% (deviate upwards)-50% (deviate downward), or is it 90-10?
 4. We can obtain these data sets regarding the IV-D population, is there a way we can obtain this information in non-IV-D?
 1. If we compare the IV-D v. non-IV-D deviation tendencies, would they be similar?
 1. If not, how do they differ?
- Default
 1. Analyze and Summarize Data
 1. How often are default orders entered?
 2. When default order entered, what is the average amount that is determined to be due?
 1. Is this amount based on real, verifiable income data, imputed, or both?
 1. If both, what is the percentage of actual income data being used v. imputed?
 2. If/when imputed, how is this done, i.e., minimum support orders or some other rate?
 2. What is the relative payment rate of current support for orders entered by default?
 3. Is this payment rate tied to the amount due and owing, meaning as the amount rises, does compliance also rise or fall?

- **Final Report Drafting**
 - As each of the subcommittees complete their assigned tasks, this subcommittee will be responsible for working with the chair, co-chairs, and/or members to draft the corresponding section(s) of the final report that must be submitted to the legislature
 1. Primarily, this group will draft and edit the report

- **Self-Sufficiency and Family Strengthening**
 - Lens to view the work of the whole
 - Needs to oversee the work of the other subcommittees to make certain the changes being suggested hit the mark
 - Creates a bridge for the public input and provides harmony to the changes with the suggestions
 - Current guidelines provide for 75% of the FPL
 - How would we measure increasing self-sufficiency and family strengthening? What are the metrics?
 1. Emerging area of research, family support and family engagement.
 2. Intuitive element also plays a role.
 - Sociological or psychological dynamics that may manifest that are outside the numbers that will be reviewed by the economist as a piece of the guidelines review
 - This subcommittee was a suggestion of one of the members of the Advisory Committee resulting from a conversation I had with Dr. Harris on Friday, 10/09. The suggestion was that this subcommittee would look toward initiatives that have the opportunity to assist parents with self-sufficiency and/or strengthen the family as a whole.

- **Old/New Business – Committee Members**

None

- **Public Comment**
 - **Michael Gerhardt** – Michael stated that he has heard a lot of good things over the year but is suspicious of the committee because they may not be doing anything. He said that they as in fathers are not part of the committee and are bothered by that.

- **Meeting Adjourned**

Motion made to adjourn; motion seconded