

Child Support Advisory Committee Meeting

May 22, 2018 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)

By video conference and teleconference

Committee Members Present:

Richard Zuckerman, Darryl Apperton (via phone), Margaret Bennett (via phone), Scott Black, Turyia Clay and Dawn Porter (for The Honorable Dorothy Brown via phone), Tanya Council (via phone), Howard Feldman, Geraldine Franco (via phone), Kirk Harris, The Honorable Lindsay Parkhurst, The Honorable Sidney Mathias, Nicole McKinnon, Margaret Stapleton, Zeophus (Zee) Williams (via phone), Juanita Sanders (for DHS Secretary James Dimas via phone), Circuit Judge Charles W. Smith (for The Honorable Judge Diane Winter via phone)

Committee Members Absent:

The Honorable Kelly Burke, Honorable La Shawn Ford, Sequane Lawrence, The Honorable Judge Pamela Loza, Derrick White

HFS Staff Present: Pam Lowry, Mary Bartolomucci, Gina Hemphill, Bryan Tribble, Ralph Abt, Hilary Felton, Yvette Perez-Trevino, Norris Stevenson, Irene Curran, Mike Vespa, Richard Campbell, Daun Perino, Sharon Shapiro

Public Guests: Present in Chicago: Mick Gerhardt

- **Welcome to CSAC members – Pam Lowry**
Pam Lowry welcomed meeting participants
- **Remarks – 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
 - Turyia Clay requested a correction to the spelling of her name.
 - Approval of meeting notes from the March 12, 2018 CSAC Meeting
- **CSAC Quarterly Numbers – Pam Lowry**
It was reported that no updated statistics were available as the same were not sure until June. Pam indicated that she would be happy to answer any questions that the committee might have.
- **Clean Slate Subcommittee – Richard Zuckerman**
 - Richard Zuckerman reported that the Clean Slate Subcommittee has already met; Dr. Kirk Harris is the Chair of that committee. Pam Lowry reported that the subcommittee has been very active; research and results have been provided and are being reviewed; the committee would like to come to a consensus with a plan/goal regarding a pathway to arrears forgiveness for State balances with

documented information on inability to pay. The committee is reviewing 4 other states models and includes 1) Obligor had documented inability to pay w/ no current support accruing; 2) Obligor making payments toward unassigned to forgive the assigned; 3) Obligor's whose family was never off welfare - reviewing past/present inability to pay; and 4) assigned arrears and interest only. Pam stated that a forgiveness program would benefit the State, the families and the Obligor/Payor.

- Margaret Stapleton requested detailed research/information be obtained on the models and that the Clean Slate Committee make a presentation to the Advisory Committee at the August meeting.
 - Dr. Harris reported that the Clean Slate Subcommittee has connected with several States in doing the research and gathering information and statistics. Dr. Harris also reported that a productive meeting had taken place with Judge Dickler regarding the pilot program between Cook County and the Power of Fathers whereby assistance in navigating IV-D services are being provided.
 - Pam Lowry offered that when individuals have family related problems coupled with financial problems, the State would like to focus its resources on those individuals who have the ability to pay.
 - Richard Zuckerman requested that a recommendation be made by the Clean Slate Subcommittee at the August meeting to be considered for the next legislative session.
 - Dawn Porter reminded the committee that her team from The Honorable Dorothy Brown's Office, Gloria Leggett and Jeffrey Mullin wanted to participate in the Clean Slate Subcommittee. They will be added to the participant list and contacted regarding an update meeting and future subcommittee meetings.
- **New Business –**
 - Pam Lowry requested Mary Bartolomucci address the Committee on two HFS initiatives. Mary reported that the Illinois Banker's Association (IBA) had finally signed off on Illinois banks participating in state to state matching for child support debt. This will result in an additional match with 24 other states. We are conservatively anticipating that this will bring in an additional \$500,000 for Illinois families. Mary also reported that we have been successful in setting up the first match with an ADW (Advanced Deposit Wagering). This first file is with Twin Spires which handles the Kentucky Derby. Unfortunately we did not have a match from this race. Pam reported that there was a current Supreme Court decision which in effect stated that Congress cannot tell the States that they cannot authorize gaming. HFS is looking to add the interception of child support arrearages to any expansion of gaming, i.e. sports betting in Illinois. Question posed by Representative Mathias – does the State intercept lottery winnings? Pam responded that if they are Illinois lottery winnings yes, via the Illinois

Comptroller; if it is a multi-state lottery, HFS has to place a lien on the money and pursue the collection in that manner.

- ISBA/DHS wants to review/improve the child support formula/statute regarding shared parenting approach. With a presumption of shared parenting the 146 threshold goes out the window which should reduce litigation. At the August meeting a new group/sub-committee will be formed to review the shared parenting thresholds.

- **Public Comment – Members of the Public**

- Representative Parkhurst commented that regarding HB5444, that the Committee should not be the entity having influence over the Bill, it should be the public having influence over the Bill. Pam Lowry responded that the Child Support Advisory Committee are not the policy makers for the State; the Committee does not influence legislature, the legislature influences HFS as HFS has to follow the law. HFS and/or the Child Support Advisory Committee may provide information to the legislature but they write their own Bills.
- Mick Gerhardt indicated that he is still receiving complaints that HFS will not perform downward modifications unless individuals are the Obligee. Pam Lowry responded as follows: that is not HFS' policy/process; either party can request services; there is a Quantitative Standard for Review(QSR); HFS reviews each request to ensure the standard is met; once met the case is referred to court. Additionally, individuals have the option to request modifications privately/pro se. HFS does not grant or fail to grant a reduction/modification in support – we only review against the qualified standards then refer the action to Court for the Judiciary to make the final decision.

- **Closing**

Motion made by Zee Williams to adjourn, seconded by Nicole McKinnon; Motion unanimously passes.

- **Meeting Adjourned**