

Child Support Task Force Work Group # 2 Minutes

March 21, 2018

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Hayden Heights Library, Bear Den

1456 White Bear Ave, Saint Paul, MN 55106

Members Present: The following task force work group members were present on Wednesday, March 21, 2018:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Kontz	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaneen Moore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Senator Melissa Wiklund
<input type="checkbox"/> Representative Peggy Scott	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mia Wilson

DHS Staff:

<input type="checkbox"/> Tara Borton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brynn Rhodes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Erickson	<input type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Sommerfeld
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jessica Raymond	

Welcome:

Introductions of the group.

Reminders, logistics, and announcements:

Reminder that the focus of the work groups to continue the discussion of issues relating to the update of the basic support table, however, they are informal meetings and no decisions will be made. Any recommendations that the group may have will be reported back to the full assembly of the Task Force when it reconvenes on May 30, 2018.

Meeting minutes from 3.7.2018 were approved.

Update on Action Item

DHS staff followed up with Dr. Venohr after the last meeting to discuss questions that the group had regarding the example worksheet on page 7 of her Tax Assumption briefing. Staff reported that both adjustments for taxes in lines Xa and Xc come from applying the employer withholding table and then adjusting the PICs based upon the difference between the married filing status of the combined income (Xa) and the actual filing status of the parties (Xc).

Tax Adjustment Examples and Discussion

Brynn Rhodes gave a detailed presentation of the tax adjustments utilized by Alaska, Delaware, Illinois, New Jersey, and Vermont. Different approaches to tax adjustments included the utilization of:

- Standardized tax assumption

- Non-standardized tax assumption
- Choice of standardized or individualized tax assumption
- Use of Tax Conversion Tables
 - IL uses one table for all cases
 - VT has multiple tables based upon custody

The group discussed the tax adjustments of each state presented. The group was particularly interested in the approach taken by Illinois, but would like more information. The presentation provided links to the online child support calculator for each state and the group was encouraged to explore these resources before the next meeting.

Finally, the group expressed concern that the economic model already chosen by Task Force (USDA) may limit the ability to make tax adjustments. One member stated that it's important make sure that the Task Force is on sound economic ground in considering its options in light of the chosen economic model and other desires of the Task Force, i.e. to have tax adjustment that is transparent. The group indicated that it would be helpful if Dr. Venohr could appear by telephone at the next meeting to discuss the group's questions and concerns.

New Action Items

1. DHS staff will follow up with Dr. Venohr and see if she is be available to speak with the group at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 from 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Bear Den

Hayden Heights Library

St. Paul, MN