

**Commission on Child Support
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 26, 2025
1-2 p.m. CDT**

**Kneip Building – Kneip Conference Room
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501
Zoom:**

Members Present: Paul Ries, Rhyann Gaddis Cudmore, Judge Eric Strawn, Secretary Matt Althoff, Christi Weideman, Tom Weerheim, Senator Amber Hulse, and Representative Mike Stevens.

Others Present: DSS employees - Max Wetz, Director Division of Child Support; Nichole Brooks, Assistant Director Division of Child Support; Carmin Dean, Policy Strategy Manager; Jeremy Lippert, Director of Legal Services; Tracy Mercer-O'Daniel, Special Projects Coordinator; Caroline Srtka, UJS Staff Attorney; members of the public present Jessica Steidl and Senator Tom Pischke.

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman Strawn at 1:05 p.m.

Roll Call: Mercer-O'Daniel called the roll. All members present.

Introduction of Commission Members: Commission members introduced themselves and described their roles.

Duties of the Commission: Althoff explained the duties of the Commission of Child Support, as established by Executive Order 2025-02. It is the duty of the members to attend Commission meetings, provide input in Commission discussions and votes, review draft legislation, review public input, and review the draft Commission Report and provide feedback.

Summary of the Division of Child Support and potential topics for consideration: Wetz provided an overview of the Division of Child Support's work and shared key child support terms and definitions with the members. He also suggested the following potential topics for consideration: prior period support, obligations of payors who are incarcerated, paternity adjudication, and revising language regarding school attendance in relation to emancipation.

Introduction of Dr. Jane Venohr: Dr. Venohr with the Center for Policy Research (CPR) was introduced, and she gave a brief presentation on how CPR will provide technical assistance to the Commission. She also outlined the federal requirements of the review and the low-income adjustment.

Public Comment: Members of the public present were Jessica Steidl and Senator Pischke. Steidl introduced herself noting that she has been in a shared parenting

situation and also a custodial parent. She will be attending the meetings and providing commentary. She asked to provide suggestions for topics prior to the July public comment period. Wetz provided her with the DSS email address to send those suggestions. Senator Pischke introduced himself and stated he was interested in providing input to the Commission during future meetings.

Next Meeting Schedule: April 29th is the next meeting scheduled for the Commission.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made and passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m. CDT.