

Subcommittee Meeting Minutes: Temporary Abatement

Monday, May 13 | 12:00 – 1:30 PM | via WebEx

WebEx Information:

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Meeting number (access code): 800 197 536

Meeting password: TempAbatement@12

To join WebEx audio-only, dial 240-454-0887 or toll free (855)929-3239

Facilitator: Mindy Houx
Note taker: Mindy Houx

Attendees: Judge Richard Okrent, Keoki Kaunanoe, Mindy Houx

Please read: Word doc: 'foster care responses' (summarizing DCS foster care processes)

Agenda Items

Topic	Presenter	Time allotted
<input type="checkbox"/> Timeline review – DELAYED UNTIL 5/17 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Milestones/Priorities:• Deadlines:	Mindy	5 minutes
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion of research items <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Richard (RCW's/WAC's) – current (legal) status<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <u>Outstanding questions:</u> What are all of the relevant statutes that may require proposed language changes? Judge Okrent referenced 13.34 and some proposed language around arrears forgiveness/termination (see below).○ <u>Next steps:</u> Judge Okrent referenced language around RCW 13.34 to the effect of 'Parents with a child returned or about to be returned from foster care placement, who owe child support arrears to the state, shall be able to seek abatement within 90 days from DCS or the court.' Noted this as a good starting point to continue the discussion on Friday.• Keoki (Office of Public Defense) – stakeholder	All	45 minutes

perspective

- Outstanding questions: Did Jacob D'Annunzio provide his email response on letterhead? Is that still necessary?
- Next steps: Keoki is pending follow through from D'Annunzio's office. The request for the email response to be provided on letter head was routed to D'Annunzio's supervisor, who is making some edits and will provide the response on letterhead.
- **Shelby** – NA, due to lack of participation
- **Sandra** (DSHS) – budget impacts: Cost-effectiveness request (based on NCSEA web-talk model from Ramsey County, Minnesota; Skophammer, 2017) routed through DCS fiscal.
 - Next steps: Mindy is pending clarification (meeting 5/13 afternoon) with DCS/ESA fiscal and EMAPS (data folks) to ensure appropriate data pull is done to replicate cost effectiveness table. After the meeting, DCS/ESA fiscal will compile stats to replicate cost effectiveness table.
- **Sandra** (AG) – perspective: Emailed the AG requesting feedback about Washington State and DCS' interpretation of federal code 42 USC 671. Email response directed request to DCS. At the 4/29 workgroup meeting, this question was asked directly to DCS/Chief of Policy, Kimberly Curtis. Kimberly advised that DCS would be pending review and feedback.
 - Outstanding questions/Next steps: Discussed need to follow up with DCS/Kimberly as more detailed recommendations are developed, as DCS will be able to more easily and quickly address more specific questions and emerging recommendations.
- **Sandra** (Minnesota perspective) – Called Trish Skophammer for insight about MN data collection model.
 - Outstanding questions/Next steps: Per Sandra's request, Mindy contact Trish Skophammer to clarify how/if MN adjusted policy; challenges experienced/lessons learned/etc.; and how they worked through potential issues with their state plan language. Pending return call, as of 5/14.
- **Sandra/Mindy** (DCYF) – demographic statistics: Still working on compiling demographics from FC placements similar to model used by Skophammer, 2017 from NCSEA web-talk.
 - Outstanding needs: Finalized demographics information for FC placements and income of FC

placement parents in the year before and during placement.

- Next steps: Review preliminary information gathered and additional information sources and see what's relevant to move forward with including as reference/support for recommendations.
- **Mindy** (DCS) – policy and practices
 - Next steps: Review information gathered and summarized after discussion and written response to questions posed by policy attorney, Brittny Considine.

□ Interim subcommittee report out, to include: **DUE TO TIME LIMITATIONS BY SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE, DELAYED UNTIL 5/17** All 20 minutes

- Summary of research:
- Emerging recommendations:
- Points of disagreement with the subcommittee:
- Questions for the workgroup:
- Outstanding issues (next steps, gaps, help from workgroup, etc.):

How do we want to handle the May 17 workgroup meeting report out? DELAYED UNTIL 5/17

- Who will lead?
- What will be included?
- What preparation will it require?
- How can the subcommittee members help?

✓ Task list review – what changes need made? Mindy 5 minutes
Mindy will update the task list and print it for review and additional updates on 5/17

✓ Other: It's going to be really important for the subcommittee to move towards drafting recommendations and use the next meeting to get feedback from the larger workgroup on what those recommendations may look like, where they may be incorporated into statute, and impacts on different groups and stakeholders. All 15

The timeline shows that the subcommittee final report is due at

the June meeting, so a lot of work needs to be done within the next month to support consensus recommendations being achieved by the whole workgroup.

Decisions, tasks and next steps

At Friday, May 17 workgroup meeting, during the subcommittee meeting time:

- Review the timeline and establish priorities; confirm deadlines.
- Review preliminary data/research:
 - Cost effectiveness table, if available
 - DCYF/FC demographics – Determine what's most relevant/impactful to be used
- Discuss options for statute changes:
 - Arrears language per RCW 13.34 (see Okrent language above)
 - Other statute references that may be applicable?
 - Income standards for FC parents? (zero; hours worked)
 - Presumptive minimum for FC obligations?
 - How can we change our child support response to the FC referrals that are received?
 - How can we address already existing orders/arrears as well as to-be-established obligations?
- Draft language for statute changes/recommendations.
- Prepare report out for in person workgroup meeting on May 17.
 - Identify questions for the workgroup and areas of need

Mindy will print lots of stuff to help work around the issue that the in person subcommittee meeting on 5/17 will not likely include a separate computer display for each subcommittee. Items to print include:

- RCW/WAC summary (*13.34)
- Preliminary research/stats
- Task list and timeline