

**Child Support Schedule Workgroup
Minutes for March 28, 2008
9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Moscow Room
Sea-Tac Airport**

Attendees: *Dr. Betson; Dr. Bowen; Angela Cuevas; Kristie Dimak; Comm. Gallaher; Merrie Gough; Alvin Hartley; Sen. Kastama; ALJ Krabill; Michelle Maddox; Rep. Moeller; Colleen Sachs; Kathleen Schmidt; David Spring; David Stillman.*

Guests: *Levi Fisher; Greg Howe; Joe Jonart; Pat Lessard; Mark Mahnkey; Liannne Malloy; Terry Walker.*

Staff: *Ellen Nolan; Mitchelin Wolff; Bob Shirley.*

1. Introductions, distributed material, approved agenda, approved minutes from January 11 and February 29.
2. Public comment: Mark Mahnkey, Greg Howe, and Joe Jonart commented.
3. Reviewed the topics presented by subcommittee on February 29 to try to reach consensus on subcommittee recommendations. The workgroup made the following decisions on topics assigned by the legislature:
 - a. Should the economic table include combined income more than \$5,000? No discussion; consensus was reached that the economic table should include combined income more than \$5,000.
 - b. Should we start the economic table at 125% of the federal poverty guidelines, and then move upward in \$100 dollar increments? The workgroup discussed the matter and reached consensus that the economic table should start at \$1,000 (slightly under 125% of the federal poverty guidelines) and then move up in \$100 dollar increments.
 - c. Should we collapse the table so there is no distinction between children under 12 and 12 and over? The workgroup discussed the matter and reached consensus that the economic table should be collapsed and the distinction between children under 12 and over 12 be eliminated.
 - d. Should child care costs and ordinary medical costs be included in the economic table or treated separately? After discussion, the workgroup revised the question to be: Should child care costs and ordinary and extraordinary medical costs be treated separately? The workgroup reached consensus that child care, ordinary medical expenses, and extraordinary medical expenses should be treated separately (i.e., not included in the economic table).
 - e. Should we tie the self-support reserve to the federal poverty guidelines? The workgroup reached consensus that the self support reserves should be tied to 125% of the federal poverty guidelines.
 - f. How should extraordinary medical expenses be addressed—through the basic support obligation or independently? Independently; this was addressed above with child care and ordinary medical expenses.

- g. Should gross or net income be used for calculating the child support obligation? The workgroup discussed the matter and reached consensus that net income should be used for calculating child support obligations.
4. Members of the subcommittee on “Other Children in the Households” reported and workgroup members discussed the topic.
5. Members of the subcommittee on “Income to Use to Establish Basic Support Order” reported and workgroup members discussed the topic.
6. David Stillman called for more public comment; no substantive public comment was offered.
7. The workgroup discussed the calendar. David Stillman noted a report from the subcommittee on “Residential Credits,” and noted a request for face-to-face time for subcommittee meetings prior to the April meeting. David Stillman asked that the entire group be given a list of topics remaining for creation of new subcommittees.
8. Next meeting is April 25 at Sea-Tac Airport.

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