

From: Andrew McDirmid
Sent: Monday, May 16, 2011 1:20 PM
To: Smylie, George (DSHS/DCS)
Subject: Residential Credit Sub Committee Minutes

Residential Credit Sub Committee Minutes - May 16, 2011. Meeting via phone conference at 12:05 p.m. Meeting lasted approximately one hour.

- Discussed with Gary desire to look at example calculations (6 or so scenarios) using old (the Original) Residential Credit formula. Gary to run these calculations before next sub committee meeting.
- Discussed history of WA Child Support Table and the Original Residential credit.
 - Andrew discussed conversation with Mary Hammerly. Mary indicated table started out at higher amounts and once Residential Credit was eliminated the table was reduced. This is Andrew's memory of what Mary indicated and Andrew noted his notes from the meeting where inadvertently deleted when he purchased a new computer.
 - George, Gary and Kevin indicated they do not remember seeing table change dramatically (up or down) from the original table.
 - George was going to check and compare the original table to the current table and see if there is a material difference in the tables.
 - It was noted when original table was adopted (we think 1988), Counties were allowed to adopt their own table. Indeed some Counties adopted their own table. There was concern over Counties having different tables and the fact this was not in compliance with Federal law. In about 1991 there was a Unified Table Adopted. This was most likely about the same time the Original Residential Credit was eliminated.
- Where Group (Sub Committee) is at (to be provided to Nancy as our written summary for May 20 meeting):
 - We agree a Residential Credit should apply to the Child Support Calculation.
 - We agree a threshold should apply. However the members are not in complete agreement about what the threshold should equal.
 - Kristie = 25% is low, but may be able to settle on 30%.
 - Kevin = indicated 25% is too low. If we needed to fix on a percentage at least 30% would be a reasonable threshold.
 - Tim = feels comfortable with a 25% threshold. However he felt a methodology like the Indiana method would be a method we should look at before we provide a recommendation. Once we look at Gary's examples using the Original Residential Credit the Group will run through the same examples using the Indiana Calculations.
 - Gary = a threshold of 25% would a minimum, but his experience indicates a majority of parents try to provide an extra room, etc. and other amenities which allow the child a good experience while at their home. Our job is very tough when we do not understand how the table originated (was a credit built in or is the table the actual cost of raising a child...no one seems to be able to answer this question).

- Andrew = would be willing to accept a 25% threshold, but also willing to accept a higher threshold percentage in order to obtain a consensus.
 - The Sub Committee agrees we are uncertain how best to calculate the Residential Credit. The group is leaning toward a recommendation of using the Original RC calculation. Due to the limited amount of time we have to provide a recommendation the Group thinks the Original Calculation is something which is familiar and is already being used in the Courts. Hence, even though the Original Credit may not be perfect the group thinks the Original credit provides the best chance to be accepted by the Sub Committee and the Work Group. The goal is to provide a formula that provides the mechanics for calculating a RC. The formula can always be adjusted for a change in a threshold, whether it is 25%, 30%, 35%, etc.
- Agenda for next meeting/s:
 - Discuss the examples Gary to provide using the Original RC Formula with 6 or so examples
 - Apply the examples from above to the Indiana Child Support Calculation