

March 19, 2008

To: Workgroup Members

From: Bob Shirley

Re: Topics on which to try to reach consensus at March 28 meeting

The subcommittee appointed January 11 (Krabill, Schmidt, Spring) reported on February 29 that it perceived there is workgroup consensus on the topics listed below. Because there were workgroup members missing and because the topics of the recommendations had only been shared with workgroup members and the public a day before the meeting, the workgroup decided not to take the step of determining if there is a level of consensus that would permit the workgroup to move ahead on these topics based on the subcommittee's report.

The agenda for March 28 includes time for a discussion of the topics listed below to try to reach workgroup consensus.

- Should the economic table include combined income more than \$5,000?
- Should we start the economic table at 125% of the federal poverty guidelines, and then move upward in \$100 dollar increments?
- Should we collapse the table so there is no distinction between children under 12 and 12 and over?
- Should child care costs and ordinary medical costs be included in the table or treated separately?
- Should we tie the self-support reserve to the federal poverty guidelines?
- How should extraordinary medical expenses be addressed—through the basic support obligation or independently?
- Should gross or net income be used for calculating the child support obligation?

The discussion about each of these topics can be reviewed by viewing the DVD of the February meeting or by viewing the meeting on-line at:

<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/dcs/resources/workgroup.asp#w6>

For most topics, you can review material on the website that provides information about how other states address the topic.