

In the Iowa Supreme Court

In the Matter of Appointments)
to the 2016 Iowa Child Support) Order
Guidelines Review Committee)

The Federal Family Support Act of 1988 requires that every four years each state must review its child support guidelines “to ensure that their application results in the determination of appropriate child support award amounts.” 42 U.S.C. § 667(a). The Iowa General Assembly has entrusted the Iowa Supreme Court with the responsibility of this quadrennial review of Iowa’s child support guidelines. Iowa Code section 598.21B(1)(a). The court concluded its last review of the Iowa child support guidelines in 2012.

When conducting this review, federal law and regulations require the state to: (1) consider economic data on the costs of raising children; and (2) analyze case data on deviations from the guidelines. In addition, Iowa Code section 598.21B(1)(c) requires that review of the guidelines “[e]mphasize the ability of a court to apply the guidelines in a just and appropriate manner based upon the individual facts of a judgment or case” and “[i]n determining monthly child support payments, consider other children for whom either parent is legally responsible for support and other child support obligations actually paid by either party pursuant to a court or administrative order.”

With this order, the court establishes the 2016 Iowa Child Support Guidelines Review Committee. Among other things, the committee will do the following: (1) analyze information about the number of deviations from the Iowa guidelines; (2) study current data concerning child-raising costs and other economic measures; (3) compare Iowa’s guidelines with child-rearing measures and the guidelines of other states; (4) review and consider the findings and recommendations of the Iowa Child Support Advisory Committee; and

(5) consider other information deemed necessary or useful for thorough review of the current Iowa child support guidelines.

The committee will complete its work and submit a final report to the court on or before December 12, 2016. The final report will include the committee's findings, as well as any recommendations the committee may have for the court.


The court appoints the following persons to the 2016 Iowa Child Support Guidelines Review Committee:

- Wayne Bergman, Assistant Attorney General, Des Moines
- Honorable Thomas A. Bitter, First Judicial District, Dubuque
- Eric Borseth, Attorney, Altoona
- Honorable Susan Christensen, Fourth Judicial District, Harlan
- Jill M. Davis, Attorney, Spencer
- Kevin E. Kaufman, Assistant Attorney General, Davenport
- Honorable Chad A. Kepros, Sixth Judicial District, Iowa City
- Steven H. Lytle, Attorney, Des Moines
- Evelyn Ocheltree, Attorney, Legal Aid, Mason City
- Honorable Eliza Ovrom, Fifth Judicial District, Des Moines, Co-Chair
- Marlis J. Robberts, Attorney, Burlington, Co-Chair
- Dennis R. Ringgenberg, Attorney, Sioux City
- DeShawne Bird-Sell, Attorney, Glenwood
- Alison Werner Smith, Attorney, Iowa City
- John Wood, Attorney, Waterloo

All prior appointments to this committee are rescinded.

Members of the committee will be reimbursed for travel and other expenses actually incurred in the performance of their duties pursuant to Iowa Court Rules 22.16 through 22.21.

Dated this 26th day of May, 2016.

Iowa Supreme Court

Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice