

In the Iowa Supreme Court

**In the Matter of Appointments)
to the 2020 Iowa Child Support)
Guidelines Review Committee)**

Order

CLERK SUPREME COURT

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 § 598.21B(1)(a). The court concluded its last review of the Iowa child support guidelines in 2017.

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 2020 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 public comments made on the Iowa child support guidelines; 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 April 1, 2021. 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 2020 Iowa Child Support Guidelines Review Committee:

Honorable Chad A. Kepros, Sixth Judicial District, Iowa City, Co-Chair
Marlis J. Robberts, Attorney, Burlington, Co-Chair
Wayne Bergman, Assistant Attorney General, Des Moines
Honorable Thomas A. Bitter, First Judicial District, Dubuque
Eric Borseth, Attorney, Altoona
Jill M. Davis, Attorney, Spencer
Honorable Craig M. Dreismeier, Fourth Judicial District, Council Bluffs
Kevin E. Kaufman, Assistant Attorney General, Davenport
Steven H. Lytle, Attorney, Des Moines
Andrea McGinn, Van Meter
Evelyn Ocheltree, Attorney, Legal Aid, Mason City
Honorable Laura Parrish, First Judicial District, Decorah
DeShawne Bird-Sell, Attorney, Glenwood
Alison Werner Smith, Attorney, Iowa City

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 1st day of June, 2020.

Iowa Supreme Court

By 
Susan Larson Christensen, Chief Justice

Copies to:

Iowa Supreme Court

Iowa Court of Appeals

Chief Judges

State Court Administrator

District Court Administrators

Members and Staff of the 2020 Committee

Director of Finance and Personnel

The Iowa State Bar Association

Polk County Bar Association

Child Support Recovery Unit