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In the Iowa Supreme Court

In the Matter of the 2016)

Iowa Child Support Guidelines)

Review Committee)

CLERK SUPREME COURT

On May 26, 2016, the supreme court appointed the 2016 Iowa Child Support Guidelines Review Committee (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 court's charge to the committee was to 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 court set a December 12, 2016, date for the committee to submit its report and recommendations.

The committee has been meeting regularly since its first meeting on June 24, 2016. The committee reports substantial progress on the majority of its work, but it has requested additional time to continue studying the treatment of child care expenses in relation to child support calculations in Iowa. The court agrees the issue warrants careful attention and extends the date for the committee's final report and recommendations to April 1, 2017.

The committee will complete its work and submit a final report to the court on or before April 1, 2017. The final report will include the committee's findings, as well as any recommendations the committee may have for the court.

The court appreciates the expertise, time, and hard work the members of this committee provide on behalf of all Iowans.

Dated this 8th day of November, 2016.

Iowa Supreme Court

Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice