

**Georgia Child Support Commission**  
**Commission Meeting**  
**Judge R. Michael Key, Chair**  
**Friday, April 19, 2024**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

The Georgia Child Support Commission (“Commission”) held a hybrid meeting, taking place at the Nathan Deal Judicial Center in Atlanta, Georgia and via Zoom Webinar. Ten (10) Commission members attended. The Commission members in attendance were:

Judge R. Michael Key, Chair	Chuck Clay, Esq.	Kathleen B. Connell, Esq.
Rep. Houston Gaines	Judge Benjamin Land	Judge Emory Palmer
Regina Quick, Esq.	Christina Scott, J.D.	Dr. Roger Tutterow
Judge Connie L. Williford		

Program Manager, Kurt Bryan, Staff Attorney, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, and Program Coordinator, Latoinna Lawrence, served as staff for this meeting. Several members of the public also attended this open meeting via Zoom.

Chair Key opened the meeting, welcoming all. Latoinna Lawrence reviewed procedures for the efficient handling of this hybrid meeting.

A quorum of 10 out of 15 Commission members was established. Chair Key noted that minutes from the November 17, 2023, Commission meeting had been previously distributed to all members. No corrections to those minutes were requested and they were unanimously approved.

Dr. Roger Tutterow provided an update for the Economic Subcommittee. That Subcommittee last met on August 11, 2023, and voted to recommend the new Basic Child Support Obligation Table (“BCSO Table”) for Georgia to the Georgia General Assembly. The Economic Subcommittee has no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Katie Connell provided an update for the Statute Review Subcommittee. That Subcommittee last met on October 3, 2023. Commission staff worked with Legislative Counsel, Holly Carter, in finalizing edits and revisions to O.C.G.A. 19-6-15. An E-vote for approval of the amendments to 19-6-15 was called for on December 20, 2023. Following approval of those amendments, Senate Bill 454 was submitted to the Legislature on February 6, 2024, and was sponsored by Senators Brian Strickland and Emanuel Jones in the Senate and Rep. Houston Gaines in the House. It achieved final passage on March 28, 2024. The Statute Review Subcommittee has no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Regina Quick provided an update for the Technology and Calculator Subcommittee. That Subcommittee last met on April 5, 2024. At that meeting, there were two proposed changes to the Child Support Calculator discussed. The first change is to Schedule B of the calculator regarding

the addition of pre-existing child support orders. The Subcommittee recommends adding a radio button to Schedule B which users must select to attest that they understand the requirements of what constitutes a pre-existing child support order. The second change is to create a specific Juvenile Court case style for child support worksheets in Juvenile Court cases. If approved by the Commission, the case style addition will be brought before the Council of Juvenile Court Judges for their approval as well. A vote was brought to the table for the Commission to approve implementation of those changes. The motion passed unanimously. Kristy King from the IT Division at the Judicial Council/Administrative Office of the Courts gave a brief presentation regarding the Calculator Modernization Project.

Chair Key provided an update on the Status of the Commission's bill, Senate Bill 454. The bill was passed by the Georgia General Assembly on March 28, 2024, and has been sent to the Governor's office. Chair Key thanked all members for their hard work on the bill, and the legislators within the Commission who sponsored the bill. Kurt Bryan noted that the bill was sent to the Governor's Office for signature on April 4, 2024.

If signed by the Governor, Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez detailed how staff plans to conduct an educational campaign. This will include educating the State Bar Family Law Section, Superior Court staff attorneys, the Council of Superior Court Judges, the Council of Juvenile Court Judges, the Council of Magistrate Court Judges, the Office of State Administrative Hearings, Family Law Information Centers, Registered Neutrals through GODR, and DCSS on the statutory changes of Senate Bill 454. Katie Connell and Judge Williford will be presenting at the Superior Court Judges' Conference in July. Katie Connell will also be presenting at the annual State Bar Family Law Institute and will be providing information for the printed Family Law Review that is mailed quarterly to members.

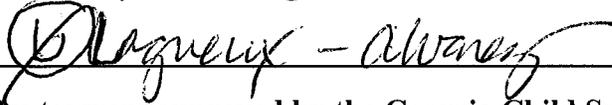
Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez provided an update on the Status of HB 499. This bill provides support for disabled children who are past the age of majority. During this legislative session, a substitution was introduced that will take the language of the bill out of O.C.G.A 19-6-15 and create a new code section, 19-6-15.1. The substitution of HB 499 passed and, if signed by the Governor, will be effective on July 1, 2024. Katie Connell advised that it may be advantageous to create a summary document pertaining to HB 499 that clarifies the bill was not a Child Support Commission bill, and also provides an overview of the bill's statutory changes.

Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez also provided an update regarding SB 520, which will bring Georgia terminology regarding the income deduction process into alignment with federal terminology. Specifically, it will change the term "income deduction" to "income withholding." Staff anticipates the signing of that bill by the Governor. This year's signing deadline is May 7, 2024. If signed, Commission staff will update the income deduction language on the Commission's website accordingly. Commission staff will also work with DCSS to request that the Uniform Superior Court Rules be updated accordingly so as not to have conflicting terminology between the statutes and the Uniform Superior Court Rules.

There was one public chat question in which an attendee asked for a summary of HB 499. Katie Connell provided a brief description and summary of the statutory changes in that bill.

This meeting adjourned at 10:37 a.m.

Reviewed by: Noelle Lagueux-Alvarez, Staff Attorney

  
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Minutes were approved by the Georgia Child Support

Commission during a scheduled meeting on 08/23/2024