



May 3, 2013

Representative David Reichert, Chairman  
Representative Lloyd Doggett, Ranking Member  
Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Resources  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Reichert and Ranking Member Doggett:

The National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA) supports the bipartisan *International Child Support Recovery Improvement Act of 2013* (H.R. 1896) and urges the Committee to consider it as soon as possible.

NCSEA members helped craft the language in the 2007 Hague Convention Treaty on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance. The provisions in Section 2 of the bill provide the language necessary to implement it. The Treaty contains procedures for processing international child support cases that are uniform, simple, efficient, accessible, and cost-free to U.S. citizens seeking support in other countries. It is founded on the agreement of countries ratifying the Convention to recognize and enforce each other's support orders.

This bill will assist state and county child support staff who encounter challenging and time-consuming international cases. Presently, there are no agreed upon standards of proof, forms or methods of communication. As more parents cross international borders leaving children behind, international child support enforcement is more important than ever. Ratification of the Convention by the United States will mean that more children will receive financial support from their parents residing in countries that are also signatories to the Convention

NCSEA has long sought congressional action on this issue, and welcomed last year's bipartisan action by the full House which adopted a nearly identical bill. This measure will help to ensure our nation's children receive the financial support to which they are entitled.

Thank you again for your leadership on this bill.

Sincerely,

Colleen Delaney Eubanks, CAE  
Executive Director