December 11, 2013

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Orrin G. Hatch  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Baucus and Ranking Member Hatch,

The National Child Support Enforcement Association (NCSEA) supports a number of the child support provisions contained in The Supporting At-Risk Children Act of 2013 and urges their adoption during the December 12, 2013 markup.

We are particularly pleased that the Chairman’s Mark contains a number of child support provisions in Title III that NCSEA has long supported. The provisions outlined below will improve services provided to families and will help guide future improvements to the program.

Namely, we strongly support Section 311 which contains language to implement the Hague Treaty. The Treaty standardizes the processes necessary to obtain child support across international boundaries and NCSEA was actively engaged in the drafting of it. Earlier this year, the House passed, 394-27, a bill (H.R. 1896) that contains such a provision.

NCSEA also supports the provision in Section 313 giving tribes direct access to the Federal Parent Locator Service, in the same way states are able to access the information. The provision will enable tribal child support agencies to better assist the families requesting their services.

Finally, NCSEA supports the creation of a Child Support Enforcement Task Force as outlined in Section 321. The Task Force would review the program and recommend changes so that child support may continue to broaden its mission to serve the entire family, including the noncustodial parent.

We appreciate your support of these provisions and urge the Senate Finance Committee to adopt them.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Tom Joseph, NCSEA Washington Representative, at tj@wafed.com.

Regards,

Colleen Delaney Eubanks, CAE  
Executive Director