

# NCSEA Legislative Quarterly Update



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## What is NCSEA? >>>

### Who We Are and What We Do

Our Mission: To promote and influence child support policies and services and to educate, connect, and inspire those who work in child support

Who We Are: Individuals and organizations with a passion for child support. Our members come from public, non-profit, and private sectors; and from local, state, tribal, national and international jurisdictions.

### NCSEA

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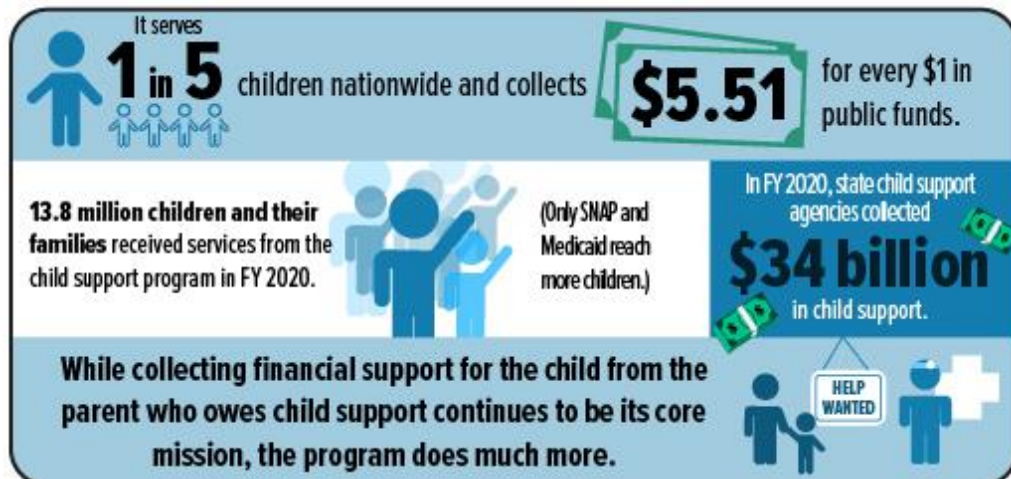
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## FFY 2020 Child Support Results >>>



Source: [FFY 2020 OCSE Preliminary Data Report](#), Tables P-29, P-36, P-93

## NCSEA Resolutions >>>

### NEW: [Resolution on Funding of State Child Support Programs](#)

In April 2021, the NCSEA board approved a resolution on the funding of state child support programs. The resolution urges that federal legislation recognize that the child support program has evolved in a manner which requires additional funding to encourage state pass-through policies and program activities essential to promoting familial self-sufficiency. Further, the Board resolves that any new federal mandates which either increase program costs or reduce program revenues must be offset by an increase in federal financial support so as to not adversely impact the families the program serves.

## NCSEA Quick Fact Papers >>>

### Recently Updated Quick Fact Papers on Child Support

NCSEA maintains a comprehensive and growing library of Quick Facts for Legislators & Interested Parties. Quick Fact papers explain in one to three pages important aspects and hot topics within the child support program. The following Quick Facts were recently updated. The full library of Quick Fact papers can be found under "Advocacy & Public Policy" on the NCSEA website at [www.NCSEA.org](http://www.NCSEA.org).

- [Overview of the Child Support Program](#)
- [Child Support and Child Welfare](#)

## NCSEA Quick Fact Papers, continued >>>

### Recently Updated Quick Fact Papers on Child Support

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Child Support Guidelines</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Credit Reporting</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Family Centered Child Support Services</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Intercepting Gambling Winnings</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Incarcerated Parents</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Medical Support</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Members of the Military</a></li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Parenting Time</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Paternity Establishment &amp; Parentage</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Assignment, Pass-Through, and Distribution</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Review and Adjustment of Support Orders</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Same Sex Parents</a></li></ul> |
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## Legislative Updates >>>

Senators have introduced two NCSEA-supported bills. Other child support measures will likely be introduced later in the session. Bills introduced to date are:

### Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act ([S. 534](#))

The bill has been supported by NCSEA for a number of years. The Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent on July 13. Introduced by Senator John Thune (R-SD) with co-sponsor Ron Wyden (D-OR), the measure would give tribal governments equal and direct access to the Federal Tax Refund Offset Program and other resources to locate parents while ensuring that all Internal Revenue Service confidentiality safeguards are met.

### Providing Adequate Resources to Enhance Needed Time with Sons and Daughters Act (PARENTS Act [S.503](#))

The Senate passed The PARENTS Act July 27 by voice vote. Authored by Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) and cosponsored by Senators Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and Ben Cardin (D-MD), The legislation would streamline a process to allow states to use existing child support performance incentive funds to establish voluntary parenting time arrangements without requesting a waiver from the Office of Child Support Enforcement. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) consistently approves those waivers, so it is an unnecessary administrative step. A House companion was introduced last year by Representative Gwen Moore (D-WI) with Republican co-sponsors Ron Estes (R-KS) and Tom Rice (R-SC).

NCSEA anticipates other bills will be re-introduced, including:

### Child Support Works Act

Senator Tom Cotton's (R-AR) bill would allow states to choose an option to receive reimbursement at the 66 percent federal matching rate for expenditures on mandatory work programs for non-custodial parents who are underemployed, unemployed, or behind on their child-support payments. Federal reimbursement for work programs would be capped at two percent of the state's reimbursable child support spending. The concept was also proposed in budgets of both the Obama and Trump administrations.

### Strengthening Families for Success Act

Introduced by Senators Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) and Representative Danny Davis (D-IL) during the previous Congress, the legislation would eliminate cost recovery for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program (TANF), Title IV-E foster care maintenance payments, and Medicaid birthing costs.

## Other Child Support Related Updates >>>

### HHS Child Support Proposals for FY2022

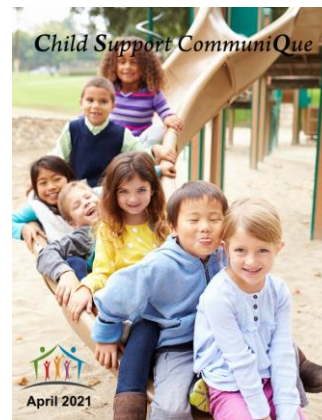
The Department of Health and Human Services' [fiscal year 2022 budget](#) contains no new policy or budget initiatives. However, HHS's Administration for Children and Families' FY 2022 Congressional Budget Justification contains a wealth of information on the program, beginning on page 229. The [spring 2021 agenda of potential regulatory actions](#) contemplated by the Administration does signal that it [plans to propose to modify the Paternity Establishment Percentage](#) performance requirements in via a proposed rule to provide relief from financial penalties to states impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. NCSEA would support such an effort.

### Child Tax Credit Launches in July

NCSEA has supported tax credits as an effective and efficient means of supporting families. Millions of families will receive their first monthly Child Tax Credit (CTC) on July 15. The IRS is creating two online portals: one for individuals to update personal information such as changes in income, marital status or number of children. The other portal was launched June 14 and enables individuals who did not file federal taxes in 2019 or 2020 to [sign-up](#) for the CTC's monthly payments. The IRS has posted this [FAQ](#) about the credit.



The [NCSEA website](#) features important documents citing the organization's positions on topics relevant to the IV-D program, as well as other human services concerns. In addition to Board resolutions, NCSEA Quick Fact papers provide key information on subjects that impact the child support program and the families served. Log into the NCSEA website, and select Advocacy and Public Policy menu to access these materials.



The **NCSEA Child Support CommuniQue (CSQ)** is a members-only e-newsletter, written by child support professionals and subject matter experts, and distributed quarterly. CSQ provides members with in-depth information about best practices throughout the US as

well as timely research relevant to the work in child support and policy. Detailed articles by thought leaders in human services cover topics as varied as IT implementation and support, to examples of managing complex staff and budget issues.

Contact [NCSEA](#) to learn how you can receive the CSQ.