

2023 Recommendations

Child Support Commission Quadrennial Review of the Child Support Guidelines



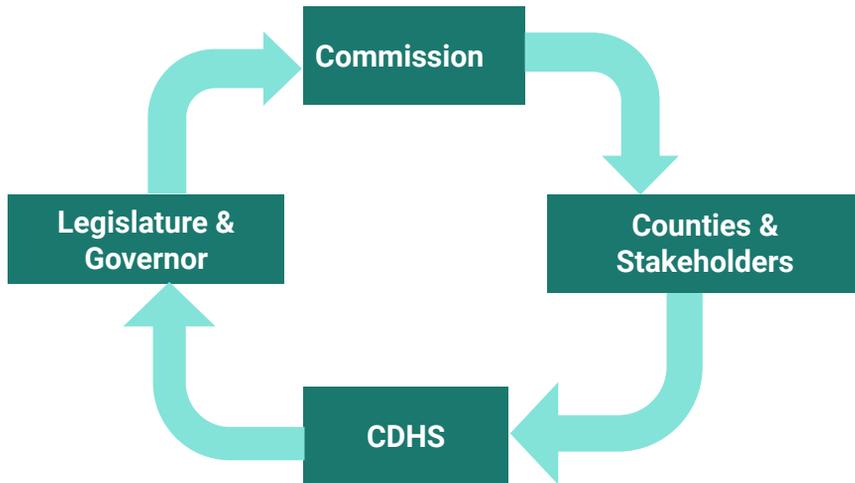
COLORADO

Office of Economic Security

Division of Child Support Services

Notes:

Quadrennial Review Process



Notes:

Child Support Commission Recommendations

Goal:

Make child support guidelines more accurate



Update data to
current costs
of living



Improve
low-income
adjustment and
adjust to
minimum wage



Modernize the
parenting time
adjustment

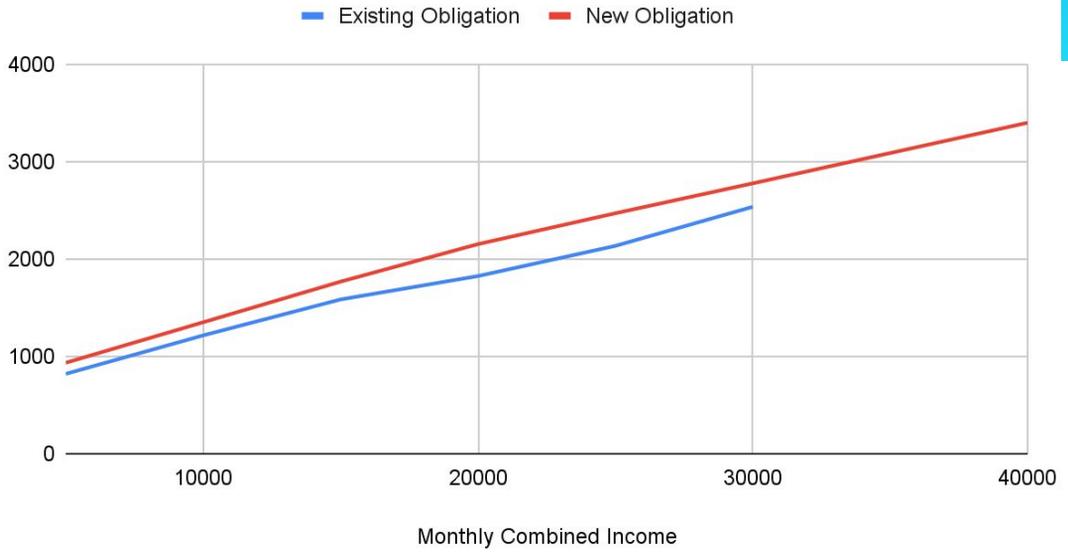
Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue	Solution
Rising costs of raising a child	Updates the schedule to reflect the most recent data on costs of raising a child based on the Rothbardt-Betson model Applies a price parity adjustment account for Colorado's higher cost of living Expand schedule to include combined incomes up to \$40,000 a month

Notes:

Existing Obligation and New Obligation Comparison (1 child)



Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue	Solution
Self-support reserve	Update minimum order income & low-income adjustment thresholds to adjust to consumer price index Incorporate self-support reserve into basic support obligation Address sharing of extraordinary expenses for low-income parents

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue		Solution				
The low-income adjustment for low-income parents has not kept up with the costs of living		Increases the basic low-income adjustment from \$1,500 to a formula based on the minimum wage to automatically adjust with the consumer price index				
Obligor's Adjusted Gross Income	1 Child	2 Children	3 Children	4 Children	5 Children	6+ Children
\$0-650	10	10	10	10	10	10
\$651-\$1,742*	50	70	90	110	130	150

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions: Self-Support Reserve

Applies a Self-Support Reserve annually adjusted to the Colorado minimum wage rate and assigning 80%-95% (depending on the number of children) of the obligor's income above the self-support reserve as child support

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Self Support Reserve Example:

Obligor Income	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,923	\$ 1,923
Self-support Reserve (SSR)*	-\$1,742	-\$1,742	-\$1,742	-\$1,742	-\$1,742	-\$1,742
Income above SSR	= \$181	= \$181	= \$181	= \$181	= \$181	= \$181
Phase-out Percentage	X 80% 1 child	X 85% 2 children	X 89% 3 children	X 92% 4 children	X 94% 5 children	X 95% 6 + children
SSR-Adjusted Order Amount	= \$145	= \$154	= \$161	= \$167	= \$170	= \$172

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions: Self-Support Reserve

Expenses like daycare and insurance premiums are calculated after the self-support reserve is applied

Final obligation is capped at 10% of obligor's income, for incomes up to minimum wage x 29 hours a week x 50 weeks a year = \$1,742 in 2024

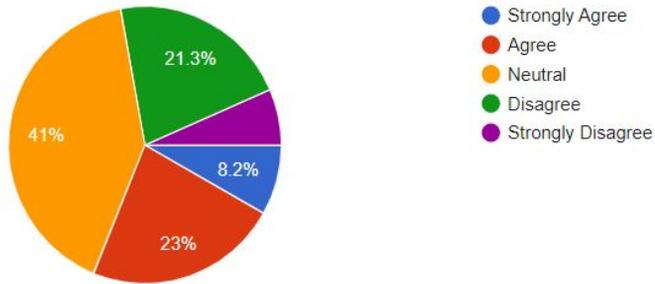
Final obligation is capped at 20% of obligor's income, for incomes up to minimum wage x 40 hours a week x 52 weeks a year = \$2,499 in 2024

Notes:

Family Law Section: Low Income Adjustment

Do you agree or disagree that it would be an improvement to increase the eligibility to qualify for a low-income adjustment (minimum order of \$50 for one child) to an income level based on the Colorado minimum wage for less than full-time employment (29 hours for 50 weeks a year, which would be \$1,649 in 2023 and \$1,742 in 2024)?

61 responses

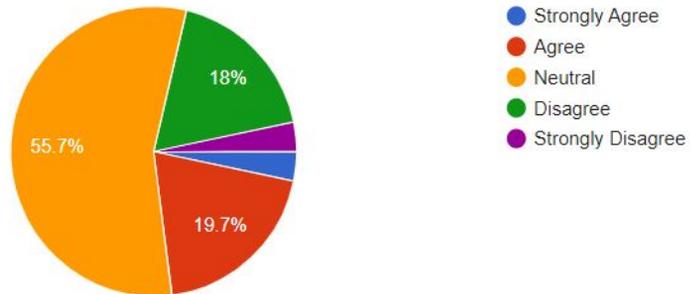


Notes:

Family Law Section: Low Income Adjustment

Do you agree or disagree that it would be an improvement to limit child support orders for obligors with incomes just above the eligibility for the low-income adjustment to 80% of the obligor's income above the low-income adjustment eligibility (i.e. self-support reserve)?

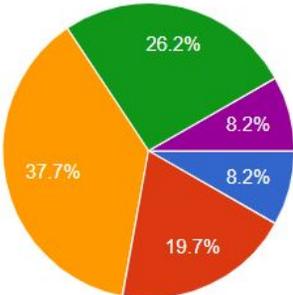
61 responses



Family Law Section: Low Income Adjustment

Do you agree or disagree that it would be an improvement to cap child support orders, including contributions to extraordinary expenses, for a parent who qualifies for the low-income adjustment (\$50 basic support order for one child) at 10% of the parent's income?

61 responses



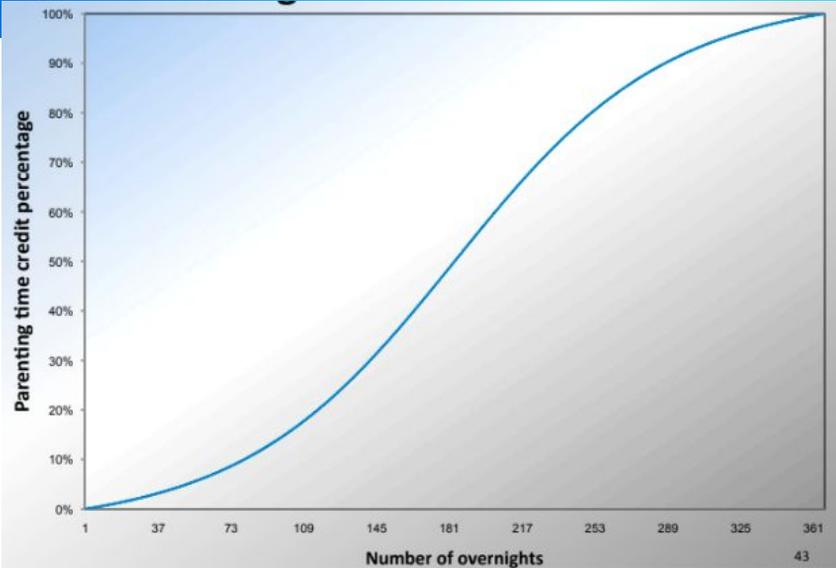
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue	Solution
Parenting time adjustment	Modernized nonlinear formula expands credit for overnight parenting time Eliminates need for multiple worksheets More accurately accounts for sharing of expenses between parents

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions: Parenting Time Adj.

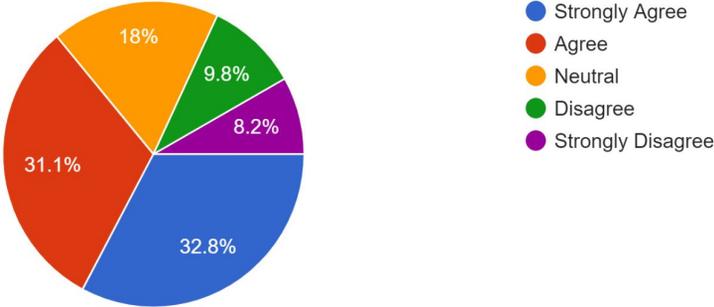


Notes:

Family Law Section: Parenting Time Adjustment

Do you agree or disagree that removing the 93 overnight cliff effect (jump from worksheet A to worksheet B) and giving a small credit for every overnight would be an improvement?

61 responses



Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue	Solution
Inconsistency in how child support is calculated when there is a split physical care arrangement where both parents have at least 183 overnights with one or more children	Specifies that the number of overnights should always be averaged

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions Split Care Overnights

Example:

Dad has 183 overnights with Antonio, and 0 overnights with Sabrina

$$182 + 0 = 182$$

$$182/2 \text{ children} = 91 \text{ overnights}$$

No longer have to decide whether to average or run offsetting worksheets, and accurately credits parent for expenses with significant overnight parenting time

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions

Issue	Solution
The child tax exemption statute is outdated and provides only general guidance	Updates the statute to provide more clarity and direction for judges and magistrates

Notes:

Issues and Proposed Solutions: Child Tax Exemption

Resolves inconsistency with federal tax code

Spells out criteria for determining which party can claim child

Clarifies recourse if a parent has been awarded the dependency exemption but is not current with child support

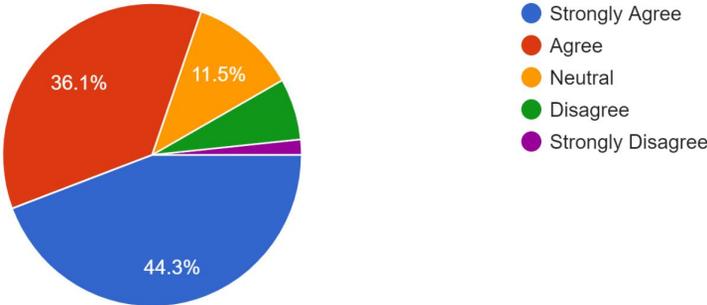
Identifies recourse when parents do not comply with order re claiming child

Notes:

Family Law Section: Tax Dependency Exemption

Do you agree or disagree that the current language in the tax dependency exemption statute (14-10-115(12), C.R.S.) is confusing and out of date? Please see this one page Fact Sheet.

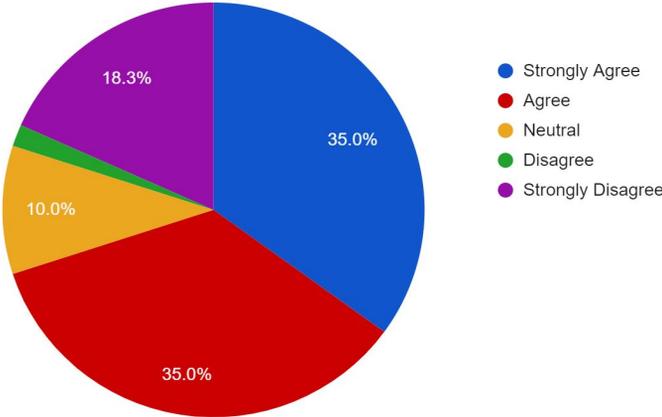
61 responses



Family Law Section: Tax Dependency Exemption

Do you agree or disagree that having a clear remedy for failure to follow the court's orders concerning the tax dependency exemption would be an improvement?

60 responses



Family Law Section: What are your thoughts?

Please take a survey to share your thoughts:

bit.ly/3HR1CY8





THANK YOU.
Share your thoughts:
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Department of Human Services