

2011 Child Support Workgroup  
Economic Table Subcommittee  
Teleconference Notes June 14, 2011

Participating on the call: Jim Cox, Kathy Lynn, Kathleen Schmidt, Tim Eastman, Janet Skreen, and Nancy Koptur

- Collapse of the Economic Table Age Brackets
  - Recapped discussion from June 7 – assuming no other changes to the table, consensus reached by those on call June 7 to collapse age brackets and use weighted average for combined brackets
  - Strong concern was voiced that there is already a significant portion of the table that results in insufficient support being ordered. Using a smaller amount than the older age bracket will only perpetrate that problem. If the table now for ages 0-11 isn't adequate, it doesn't make sense to use that figure in achieving a weighted average. Strong support for using the Column B figure was voiced by two members; a third member said it would be better to use Column B than to maintain two age categories.
  - Only three states use different age categories, including Washington.
  - Consensus was reached by those on the call to collapse the table, eliminating the two age brackets.
  - Consensus was not reached as to what the sole column figures should be or how they should be determined.
  
- Betson Averaging
  - Discussion took place about what sources of data Dr. Betson averaged together. WSBA FLEC asked Dr. Betson if averaging two sources was appropriate, and he said no. This is an area that we hope will be clarified during the June 24 call with him.
  - Discussion turned again to the portion of the chart that is below the poverty level, shaded in grey in some versions of the table. Another viewpoint was that the Betson model figures are too high, especially for younger children.
  - Dr Betson's response to the previous workgroup did indicate that he felt that this was an appropriate approach to determining expenditures, and apparently does not agree with the testimony noted.
  
- There will NOT be a conference call June 21<sup>st</sup>.