

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
Inter-Office Communication

DATE: February 20, 2013

TO: Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jim Sullivan, Director, Department of Child Support Services

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS WITH THE ONEIDA TRIBE AND WISCONSIN'S DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES REGARDING THE TRANSFER OF CHILD SUPPORT CASES TO THE TRIBE

The Director of the Department of Child Support Services requests authority to execute agreements, pursuant to the 2013 State/County Child Support Contract, for the Department to assist in the transfer of appropriate child support cases from Milwaukee County Circuit Court to the Oneida Tribal Court.

Background

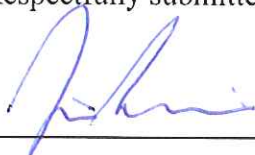
The 2013 State/County Child Support Contract, as approved by the Board on February 7, 2013, requires Milwaukee County Child Support to follow state policy, as established by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), in the administration of the child support program in Milwaukee County. State policy recognizes that Tribes receive funding from the federal government to operate their own child support programs under Title IV-D of the federal Social Security Act (42 USC 854) – the same authorizing legislation for Wisconsin's child support program. Wisconsin's Supreme Court has recognized that circuit courts and tribal courts have concurrent jurisdiction over child support establishment and enforcement, and that tribes have the inherent authority to regulate domestic relations among their members. As a result, DCF policy requires county child support agencies to cooperate with and assist in the transfer of child support cases to tribes when appropriate under Wisconsin law, as codified in Wis. Stat. §801.54.

To assist the Department in handling the workload involved, the Oneida Tribe will reimburse the Department up to \$15,000.00 over the period of the project, anticipated to be one to one and one-half years. Consistent with this, I am asking the Board to authorize the Department of Administrative Services to implement a fund transfer to increase revenue and expenditure authority for Child Support Services in the amount of \$7,500 per year, for 2013 and 2014.

Recommendation

I recommend that the County Board of Supervisors authorize the execution of these agreements.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim Sullivan, Director

Department of Child Support Services

Electronic copies to:

Chris Abele, Milwaukee County Executive
Mark Borkowski, Chair, Judiciary, Safety and General Services – County Board
Amber Moreen, Chief of Staff – Milwaukee County Executive's Office
Craig Kammholz, Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS
Josh Fudge, Fiscal & Strategic Planning Coordinator – DAS
Jennifer Collins, Analyst - County Board
Janelle Jensen, Committee Clerk - County Board

Attachments:

Fiscal Note
Resolution