

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES**

P.O. Box 419064, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9064



December 9, 2014

CSSIN LETTER: 14-10

ALL IV-D DIRECTORS  
 ALL COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS  
 ALL BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS

SUBJECT: CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION 2014

<u>Reason for this Transmittal</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State Law or Regulation Change
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Federal Law or Regulation Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Court Order or Settlement Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Clarification requested by One or More Counties
<input type="checkbox"/> Initiated by DCSS

The Governor signed legislation for the 2014 session related to child support services. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a brief summary of these bills. Any required regulation or policy instructions will be provided in a separate letter.

**AB 2252 (Pèrez) Chapter 180 Effective January 1, 2015**

Extends federal consumer protection rules associated with electronic deposit accounts and prepaid card accounts to financial entities transferring California child support payments and requires that accounts be held at insured financial institutions, among other things. The changes provide child support customers who opt to receive their child support payments via electronic deposit accounts or prepaid card accounts with specified protections, including that the account must be held by an insured financial institution and the card account may not be attached to any credit or overdraft feature.

**AB 1614 (Stone) Chapter 720 Effective January 1, 2015**

Restores a liability protection provision for the Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) that was removed from Chapter 180, Statutes of 2014 (AB 2252, J. Perez), which extends federal consumer protection rules associated with electronic deposit accounts and prepaid card accounts to financial entities transferring California child support payments.

**AB 2344 (Ammiano) Chapter 636 Effective January 1, 2015**

Clarifies and determines legal parental rights between donors and parents by providing a standardized parentage form to be used as a written agreement. It streamlines the process for stepparent adoptions when there is no disagreement about parental rights and may reduce parentage-only litigation for local child support agencies.

**SB 1306 (Leno) Chapter 82 Effective January 1, 2015**  
Changes language in the Family Code to reflect gender-neutral terminology, to remedy the confusion caused by existing statutes which do not explicitly provide for marriage of same-sex couples.

**SB 1460 (Committee on Human Services) Chapter 772 Effective January 1, 2015**  
Provides child and family services and foster care and adoption agencies within California access to the California Parent Locator Service to locate adult relatives of children that are being held in the foster care system. The goal is to find suitable care for the child thereby avoiding permanent placement in a foster care setting. DCSS already has the authority to do this under federal law.

In addition, the President signed the following bill related to child support services:

**HR 4980 (Camp) 113 P.L. 183 Effective January 1, 2016<sup>1</sup>**  
Requires that all states implement the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) 2008. California currently operates under UIFSA 1996. Also includes provisions outlining congressional intent regarding voluntary parenting time arrangements, among other things.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [Anne.Drumm@dcss.ca.gov](mailto:Anne.Drumm@dcss.ca.gov) or (916) 464-5481.

Sincerely,

/os/

ANNE DRUMM  
Assistant Director  
Legislative and External Affairs

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<sup>1</sup> HR 4980 was signed into law by the president and has been federally enacted. However, it provides a grace period for individual states to enact the 2008 UIFSA provisions. California has until January 1, 2016 to comply with the new standard.