



TO: NCCSD

FROM: Erin Frisch and Eileen Stack, Committee Co-Chairs

DATE: July 16, 2021

RE: Policy and Practice Committee Annual Report

The NCCSD Policy and Practice Committee had a productive 2020-2021 year, meeting monthly starting on October 1, 2020. The committee was co-chaired by Erin Frisch and Eileen Stack and consisted of representatives from approximately 20 states. The Committee's work involved monitoring and assessing federal rulemaking, proposed federal legislation, federal OCSE policy issuances, and various programmatic impacts and needs arising from the pandemic.

Federal Rulemaking

The Committee assisted in preparing and drafting comments to a September 17, 2020 NPRM from OCSE proposing to provide states with two optional exceptions to the prohibition against treating incarceration as voluntary unemployment. The Comments addressed technical concerns with the proposed regulatory language and were submitted to OCSE on behalf of NCCSD.

Proposed Federal Legislation

The Committee conducted a preliminary review and assessment of the Strengthening Families for Success Act outlining specific areas for further discussion and language review. The Committee is continuing its work in anticipation of upcoming legislative action on the bill.

Recommendations for the New Administration

Several meetings of the Committee have been devoted to identifying and developing a proposed future vision and agenda for the new administration. As part of this work, the Committee reviewed NCSEA resolutions, NCCSD's and NCSEA's comments to the October 23, 2014 federal request for information for OCSE's Report to Congress, and NCCSD's 2017 Future Focus Survey outcomes, and put together a draft NCCSD federal agenda document to present to the executive committee and association.

Other assignments included monitoring and assessing OCSE policy issuances, evaluating issues impacting state programs including federal tax offsets issues and

reversals stemming from COVID relief, and monitoring developments with Medicaid referrals. In December 2020, a subcommittee on administrative enforcement was formed to explore how state programs modified administrative enforcement mechanisms during the pandemic, how those modifications impacted programs and whether recommendations for permanent changes to administrative enforcement mechanisms or approaches should be made. The subcommittee's survey to states will be issued in the near-term.