



EASTERN REGIONAL INTERSTATE CHILD SUPPORT ASSOCIATION

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November 16, 2021

Hon. Danny Davis
Chair
Subcommittee on Worker & Family Support
Committee on Ways and Means
2159 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Jackie Walorski
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Worker & Family Support
Committee on Ways and Means
466 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Davis and Walorski:

The Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Association (ERICSA) is a not-for-profit organization of child support professionals that was founded in 1963 and promotes the interests of children who are owed child support. ERICSA members work for or with state, tribal, and local child support agencies as public or private sector participants. ERICSA's membership spans the United States. This letter of support is being sent as part of ERICSA's participation in a national discussion regarding intergovernmental issues arising in the establishment and enforcement of child support obligations.

On July 13, 2021, the Senate passed S. 534, the Tribal Child Support Enforcement Act. This bill was then forwarded to the House of Representatives, where it is currently being "held at the desk." The Eastern Regional Interstate Child Support Association ("ERICSA") has supported this piece of legislation since its introduction and urges the House of Representatives to take up, and pass, this bill.

S. 534 has two important provisions which will enhance the ability to collect support owed to the nation's children. First, it grants the federally funded tribal child support programs *direct* access to the Federal Tax Refund Offset Program, making this valuable tool available to all federally recognized state, tribal, and local child support agencies, on an

equal basis, furthering the fundamental goal of the child support program to ensure that all children receive adequate financial support based on their parents' means. Second, it proposes changes to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 which would permit the limited disclosure of Federal Tax Information (FTI) where such disclosure is needed to establish and enforce child support obligations.

ERICSA supports both of these important changes to current law, as the changes will enhance the ability of all child support agencies to carry out their primary function, namely collecting the support due to the nation's children. ERICSA is proud to stand with our sister organizations, the National Child Support Enforcement Association, the National Tribal Child Support Association, the National Association of Tribal Child Support Directors, and the National Council of Child Support Directors in urging passage of this legislation. ERICSA offers its support in your efforts to move this legislation toward passage, recognizing this act would improve the functioning of the whole child support program. If the members of ERICSA can be of further assistance in these efforts, please do not hesitate to call upon us.

Sincerely,



Tommy Howard
ERICSA President