



ADMINISTRATION FOR  
**CHILDREN & FAMILIES**  
Office of Child Support Enforcement | 330 C Street, S.W., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Washington, DC 20201 | [www.acf.hhs.gov/css](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/css)

January 26, 2021

James Fleming, Director  
Child Support Enforcement Program  
North Dakota Department of Human Services  
P. O. Box 7190  
Bismarck, ND 58507

Dear Mr. Fleming:

The Office of Child Support Enforcement has learned that North Dakota's Legislature plans to introduce legislation to eliminate the state mandate that an applicant include a Social Security Number (SSN) on the application for an operator's license (driver's license).

Section 466(a)(13) of the Social Security Act requires all states to have in effect and use laws and procedures requiring that the SSN of any applicant for a professional license, driver's license, occupational license, recreational license, or marriage license be recorded on the application.

Since the inception of the Child Support Enforcement Program, certain laws and procedures have measurably increased the efficiency and effectiveness of some states' programs. To improve the nationwide child support effort, Congress required states to implement the particular laws and procedures responsible for the success of those state programs. The state plan provision at section 454(20) of the Act requires states to have in effect and use the laws and procedures specified in section 466 of the Act to improve the effectiveness of child support enforcement programs.

A state must also have an approved state IV-D plan in order to receive federal funding under title IV-D pursuant to section 455(a)(1)(A) of the Act. As stated in OCSE-AT-97-05, dated April 28, 1997, a state plan disapproval would result in immediate suspension of all federal payments for the state's child support program. For federal fiscal year (FFY) 2017, the federal share of expenditures for North Dakota's IV-D program, including incentive payments, was \$13,105,712.

In addition, section 402(a)(2) of the Act provides that the chief executive officer of a state must certify that the state will operate a child support program under an approved IV-D plan as a condition for eligibility for a Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant under title IV-A of the Act. Therefore, North Dakota should know that TANF funds might also be at risk. For FFY 2017, the TANF block grant to North Dakota was \$26,312,690.

If you require additional clarification, please contact OCSE Regional Program Manager Diane Degenhart at [diane.degenhart@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:diane.degenhart@acf.hhs.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Boyer".

Linda Boyer  
Acting Commissioner

cc: Yvette Riddick, Director, OCSE Division of Policy and Training  
Melissa Johnson, Director, OCSE Division of Regional Operations  
Diane Degenhart, OCSE Regional Program Manager, Region 8