



**4184-42-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**Administration for Children and Families**

**Notice designating State title IV-D child support agencies as “public bodies”**

**AGENCY:** Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice

**SUMMARY:** This notice designates state IV-D child support agencies as public bodies authorized to perform specific functions of the Central Authority under Article 6(3) of the the Hague Convention of 23 November 2007 on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance (Convention).and specifies functions to be performed by the state agencies in relation to applications under the Convention.

**ADDRESSES:** Interested parties may submit written comments on this notice to the United States Central Authority for International Child Support, Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Child Support Enforcement, 330 C Street, SW., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20201. Comments received will be available for public inspection at this address from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.

**DATES:** The Convention will enter into force for the United States on January 1, 2017.

**CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** The Division of Policy and Training, Office of Child Support Enforcement, Administration for Children and Families, 330 C Street, SW., 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Washington, DC 20201.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The President signed the Instrument of Ratification on August 30, 2016, and the United States of America deposited its Instrument of Ratification of the Convention on September 7, 2016. The Convention will enter into force for the United States on January 1, 2017. Section 459A of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 659a) and Executive Order 13752, 81 FR 90181 (Dec. 8, 2016) designate the Department of Health and Human Services as the Central Authority of the United States for purposes of the Convention, and authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to perform all lawful acts that may be necessary and proper in order to execute the functions of the Central Authority. Article 6(3) of the Convention authorizes the designation of public bodies to perform specific functions under the Convention, subject to the supervision of the Central Authority. The Executive Order specifically authorizes the designation of the state agencies responsible for implementing an approved State Plan under title IV-D of the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. 651 et seq., as public bodies authorized to perform specific functions in relation to applications under the Convention. All states have enacted the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act of 2008 (UIFSA 2008) to enable uniform implementation of the Convention in the United States.

Under authority delegated by the Secretary for administration of the title IV-D program, I hereby designate the state title IV-D child support agencies as public bodies authorized to

perform functions related to applications under the Convention in accordance with UIFSA 2008, title IV-D and title IV-D regulations, and guidance and instructions, subject to the supervision of the federal Office of Child Support Enforcement. Such functions shall include the provision of support enforcement services to applicants under the Convention, including: transmitting and receiving applications under the Convention; initiating or facilitating the institution of proceedings with respect to applications; establishing paternity and support orders; recognizing, modifying, and enforcing such orders; collecting and distributing payments under such orders; and providing administrative and legal services without cost to applicants.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** Section 459(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 659(a))

Dated: December 29, 2016.

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Mark H. Greenberg  
Acting Assistant Secretary  
for Children and Families

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