

House Public & Behavioral Health & Human Services
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HB22-1360 Retaining Percentage Of Fed Child Support Payments
Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
<p>Riley Kitts For Colorado Children's Campaign</p>	<p>Testimony in Support of HB22-1360 Retaining Percentage of Federal Child Support Payments</p> <p>Hello Madam Chair and members of the committee. I am Riley Kitts and I am the Government Affairs Director for the Colorado Children’s Campaign.</p> <p>The Colorado Children’s Campaign is a nonpartisan, nonprofit policy and research organization that has been committed for the last 37 years to advocating for every change for every child.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. We are here in support of House Bill 1360.</p> <p>Colorado has made significant strides in improving child support enforcement systems and advancing policies that support the receipt of child support by families.</p> <p>Our state was the first in the nation to enact a full pass-through of child support dollars to families enrolled in TANF.</p> <p>We have increased access to child care services and funding by removing requirements that force families to establish child support as a condition of receiving child care assistance, including through legislation passed this year.</p> <p>And we have made improvements to our IT systems so that both local governments and families have an easier time navigating systems.</p> <p>The Children’s Campaign is proud of Colorado’s track record when it comes to child support, and we are proud that the state has set itself up to receive millions of dollars in incentives.</p> <p>And this is an important thing to be proud of. Child support is a critical source of income for families that supports child development and well-being and promotes family economic security.</p> <p>Having this type of additional income for a family has long-lasting positive impacts on child outcomes. A \$3,000 difference in annual income in the first 5 years of a child’s life is associated with: the equivalent of 20 points on the SAT, a 17 percent increase in the</p>

	<p>child's future earnings, and 135 additional work hours per year as adults.</p> <p>And research shows that every dollar of child support income has a greater effect on how well a child does in school than any other source of family income.</p> <p>We have an opportunity to build upon these proud moments and successes and invest in our systems and statewide solutions to ensure that all eligible families have access to child support payments.</p> <p>Thank you, Representatives Titone and Baisley, for carrying this bill forward. We urge your support of HB1360. Thank you for your time, committee.</p>
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