



National Child Support Enforcement Association
Voice for the Child Support Community

CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE

United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee Approves the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention

Dear Fellow Child Support Professionals,

I am very pleased to report that on November 17th, 2009 the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee voted to approve the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention (formerly referred to as the *Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance*). The Committee plans to file its report together with the recommended resolution for Senate Advice and Consent soon after Thanksgiving, and the Senate may vote on the resolution relatively soon after it is filed.

Also on November 17th, the special Commission on the implementation of the 2007 Hague Child Support Convention adopted the standardized Forms, the Country Profile and the Practical Handbook. After final reviews these documents will be published on The Hague website (www.hcch.net).

A number of NCSEA members have chaired or participated on workgroups since 2003 to see that these useful implementations tools are available to state and county Family Maintenance and Child Support Agencies and their case workers. Many thanks to the following members for their years of hard work: Meg Haynes and Kay Farley on the Forms, Ann Barkley and Annick Boulay-Bramley on the Country Profile, and Hannah Roots on the Practical Handbook. Many thanks too to Marilyn Ray Smith and Alisha Griffin for their participation at The Hague and their continued support of the Convention.

NCSEA will keep you advised on the status of the resolution. As a reminder, the

following actions must still be taken for the U.S. to become a party to the Convention:

- * The Senate gives advice and consent to ratify the Convention by a two-thirds vote.
- * Congress approves the implementing legislation.
- * Every state adopts UIFSA 2008.
- * The President deposits documentation with the Hague Conference on Private International Law ratifying the Convention.

Sincerely,

Howard G. Baldwin, Jr.

President

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