

From: Office of the Governor Site Support

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To: Haley, Nikki

Cc:

Subject: Those who are trying to do right shouldn't have the a system set up to work against them.

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Message:

My husband and I, over the last 7 months, have found out that our states DSS and Family Court System is far more flawed than we ever imagined. From our recent experiences I have concluded that our state is most likely losing an extreme amount of money paying for services that are flat out being stolen from it and no one seems to care.

Last year my husbands first wife left their two children with her mother at the home where they lived with the mother, children, and grandparents and did not return. After that, we took on full care of the children. We have spent 7 months and countless dollars, putting ourselves deeply in debt, trying to get help to be able to care for the two boys who my husbands first wife had custody of yet abandoned. We went to Family Court and the Dept. of Social Services with multiple forms of documentation and proof from the boys school and doctor about the situation. We were been told repeatedly that there was nothing to be done without an attorney. We finally saved enough to retain an attorney and yet still my husbands wages have continued to be garnished for child support for children who have lived with us and been in our full care for 7 months. DSS has refused to issue insurance cards for the children because their mother is still receiving medicaid benefits, snap benefits, and welfare claiming the children although we have filed full documentation from the court and the children's school stating that the children are in our full care. She is committing fraud and they do NOTHING. While we struggle to pay for the doctors visits and medicine that the children need, this woman is being allowed by the state to continue to use its funds to hide from being served with the notice to appear in court so we could have a hearing. The system is set up to protect this woman and most certainly NOT for the purpose of "best interest of the children". I didn't expect our situation to be easy but I definitely didn't think that all the state services and the family court would work against us. We have done everything asked, providing everything asked, gone above what was asked, spent hours in waiting rooms and telling the same thing over and over every time with absolutely no results. My heart is heavy that in this wonderful place we live this kind of thing is happening. My family can't be the only ones who are effected this way. Something needs to done that will not allow people to continue to use their children to live off the government while punishing those who are trying to do the very best they can. My husband should have never had to continue to pay child support for 7 months after he took over the care of his children and provided legal documented proof to our counties family court. We should never have had to put our selves in dept to be able to properly care for our children. We should never have had to fight and spend hours speaking to the same offices over and over, repeating the same information, taking copies of the same information, begging to state agencies to be able to take our children to the doctor. The system has failed us beyond measure. I sincerely hope that one day there will be a change.