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John Bel Edwards, Governor
Marketa Garner Walters, Secretary

May 10, 2022

The Honorable Fred H. Mills, Jr.
Chairman, Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
Via Email: apa.s-h&w@legis.la.gov

The Honorable Larry Bagley
Chairman, House Committee on Health and Welfare
Via Email: apa.h-hw@legis.la.gov

RE: Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Rulemaking

The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) hereby announces its plan to proceed with rulemaking by finalizing the Notice of Intent titled "TANF Fatherhood" that was promulgated and published on page 521 of the March 2022 *Louisiana Register*. Copies of the notice and fiscal statement were provided to you on, or about, March 10, 2022.

The proposed rule will amend LAC 67:III, Subpart 15 Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Initiatives, Chapter 55 TANF Initiatives, Section 5571 Parenting/Fatherhood Services Program. Pursuant to Louisiana's Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Block Grant, amendment of Section 5571 is required to update the TANF goal and eligibility criteria. TANF goal 2 (to end the dependence of needy parents on government benefits by promoting job preparation, work, and marriage) is being removed and the income eligibility criteria related to goal 2 is being removed. TANF goal 4 meets the initiative's objectives and its associated eligibility criteria allows the most flexibility for providers to serve a wide variety of disadvantaged families.

DCFS held a public hearing on April 26, 2022, and no comments were received on the proposal. At this time, the department intends to submit the Final Rule to the Office of State Register for publication in the June 2022 issue of the *Louisiana Register*. This Rule is effective July 1, 2022.

Please contact me at (225) 400-3311 if the department may be of any assistance to you concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

Shavana Howard

Shavana Howard
Assistant Secretary of Family Support

sh/cd

cc: The Honorable Patrick P. Cortez, President, Louisiana Senate
Office of the State Register

