



**ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
ASSEMBLY TASK FORCE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Family involvement in the child welfare and Family Court systems.

PURPOSE: To examine the child welfare and Family Court systems as it relates to the availability of supports and services to help keep families together.

ALBANY

Thursday
November 21, 2019
10:00 am

Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room C

Over the last several years, advocates and other key stakeholders have identified situations in the State's child welfare and Family Court systems, which have created potential barriers to keeping families together. These circumstances could range from how legal standards affect people with certain economic statuses during a family's interaction with child protective services and insufficient caseload standards for caseworkers, to insufficient preventive service funding and kinship guardianship placements to help prevent unnecessary separations. Work has been done to try to address some of these likely issues, but it is possible barriers still exist. This hearing's goal is to learn more about what stakeholders view as the most critical obstacles that may be preventing families from remaining together throughout their involvement with the child welfare and Family Court systems and receive recommendations on steps the State can continue to take to help alleviate some of these potential circumstances.

Persons wishing to present pertinent testimony to the Committee at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form by November 19, 2019. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes' duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committee will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible.

Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to further publicize these hearings, please inform interested parties and organizations of the Committee's interest in hearing testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Ellen C. Jaffee

**Member of Assembly
Chairwoman
Committee on
Children and Families**

Latrice M. Walker

**Member of Assembly
Chairwoman
Task Force on
Women's Issues**

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons wishing to present testimony at the public hearing on family involvement in the child welfare and Family Court systems are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible but no later than November 19, 2019 and mail, email or fax it to:

Meg Antz
Legislative Associate
Assembly Committee on Children and Families
Room 442 - Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: antzm@nyassembly.gov
Phone: (518) 455-4371
Fax: (518) 455-4693

- I plan to attend the following public hearing on family involvement in the child welfare and Family Court systems to be conducted by the Assembly Committee on Children and Families and Task Force on Women's Issues on November 21, 2019.
- I plan to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to 10 minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
- I will address my remarks to the following subjects:

- I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
- I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
- I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
- I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. **Please specify the type of assistance required:** _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

FAX TELEPHONE: _____