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Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to see you all at our upcoming 38th Annual IFSEA Conference on Monday, September 28, 2026, and Tuesday, September 29, 2026. This year we are thrilled that the south is going to host an in-person conference at the Kokopelli Golf Course in Marion, IL. We feel this is a fantastic opportunity to visit beautiful Southern Illinois and to connect with more child support professionals through interactive participation, including those from other states.

Get ready to don your finest hats and bow ties because this year's Conference is off to the races with an exciting Kentucky Derby theme. Attendees can look forward to a fun-filled event inspired by the tradition, elegance and excitement of the "Where the Pursuit of Victory Inspires". From the Derby-inspired décor and southern hospitality to festive networking opportunities, this year's Conference promises to be both engaging and unforgettable. We encourage everyone to embrace the spirit of the Derby by dressing in their best race-day attire and joining us for a memorable celebration of teamwork, success and community.




With the lineup you won't want to miss, this year's Conference is shaping up to be an unforgettable experience. Be sure to keep an eye on future communications so you don't miss any important announcements as we count down the big event and possible tourism in Southern Illinois while attending the event.

We aim to provide valuable content that will enhance your ability to serve the families of Illinois more effectively. Stay tuned for more exciting updates as we prepare for this year's Conference. In the coming weeks, we'll be sharing details about our upcoming sessions, featured speakers, special events, and opportunities designed to inspire and engage attendees.

I look forward to seeing everyone at this year's conference!

See you all soon!
Warm Regards,
Juanita "Kay" Gabby
1st Vice President
IFSEA



	 <p>Conference Venue & Things to Do in Marion, IL</p>	 <p>Legislative Updates</p>	 <p>IFSEA Board- Why YOU should join!</p>
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Kokopelli Golf Course 1527 Champions Drive, Marion, IL 62959

IFSEA is thrilled to host this year's conference at the beautiful, highly acclaimed Kokopelli Golf Course in Marion, IL.

Facts about Kokopelli in Marion, IL:

- **Design:** Designed by Steve Smyers, the course is noted for unique, strategic design elements that challenge depth perception.
- **Layout:** 18 holes, par 72 with a championship length stretching over 7,000 yards.
- **Surfaces:** Features latitude Bermuda fairways, tees, and greens.
- **Difficulty:** Rated highly for difficulty with a slope of 139 and a rating of 74.7 from the back tees.
- **Practice:** Offers an 8-acre practice facility, including a driving range and putting/chipping greens.
- **Amenities:** Features a full-service pro shop, golf simulators (Koko Simulator Suite), and club rentals.
- **Restaurant:** Home to The Turn Restaurant & Lounge, offering a variety of food and drinks



Things to Do In & Around Marion, IL

For those attending this year's conference who are not from the Marion area, below are some interesting attractions that the area has to offer.

- **Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge:** Located just south of Marion, offering 44,000 acres for hiking, fishing, boating, and wildlife viewing (bald eagles, deer).
- **Mtn Dew Park:** Home to the Thrillville Thrillbillies baseball team, this stadium is part of the new "Thrillville" entertainment district in Marion.
- **Mandala Gardens:** A peaceful spot for walking, exploring, and relaxing, located near the golf course.
- **Ray Fosse Park:** Features playgrounds and a disc golf course.
- **Shawnee Hills Wine Trail:** A popular attraction with multiple vineyards located in the nearby Shawnee National Forest region.
- **Giant City State Park:** Known for its rock formations, hiking trails, and camping.
- **Lake of Egypt:** Offers water sports, fishing, and boating, located just a short drive from Marion

Legislative Updates

HB 5172 and SB 3524: SHARED PARENTING—110 or more overnights

Amends the IMDMA. Provides for a modified shared parenting calculation for obligors who have between 110-145 overnights, and accounts for "overnight equivalents". [READ MORE...](#)

HB 2542: SHARED PARENTING—3,504 hours

Amends the IMDMA. Changes the child support formula for shared physical care. Replaces the language of "146 or more overnights" with "3,504 hours or more".

- 3-27-26: Re-referred to Rules Committee

HB 4819: STRENGTHENING FATHERS AND FAMILIES

Creates a new Act, and amends the State Finance Act to add the Fatherhood and Family Strengthening Fund. [READ MORE...](#)

SB 2850: DEPLOYED PARENTS ALLOCATION OF PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Amends the IMDMA. Creates the Deployed Parents Allocation of Parental Responsibilities Part. [READ MORE...](#)

HB 4077: PARENTING TIME WITH DISABLED CHILD


Amends the IMDMA. Provides that when a child with a disability that substantially impairs the child's ability to make independent decisions regarding parental relationships reaches the age of majority, the court may allocate parenting time by considering the specified factors as modified by the child's capacity and expressed preferences.

- 3-27-26: Re-referred to Rules Committee.

HB 4498: NEGLIGENT PATERNITY TEST

Creates the Negligent Testing for Paternity Act. Creates a civil cause of action if an entity negligently performs genetic testing for paternity. Authorizes the aggrieved person to recover damages.

- 3-27-26: House Committee Amendment No. 1 (amendment would allow claims only against for-profit laboratories). Re-referred to Rules

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HB 4499: INTERFERENCE WITH PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

Creates the Tortious Interference with Parent-Child Relationship Act.

Creates a civil cause of action for a parent or child if a third party's tortious conduct injures either the child or the parent or otherwise unreasonably harms, prevents, or terminates a parent-child relationship. Authorizes recovery of damages.

- 3-27-26: Re-referred to Rules Committee.

HB 4961: RELOCATION-IMMIGRATION

Amends the IMDMA. Amends the relocation provisions to incorporate immigration-status coercion as a criterion for the court to consider in a petition for relocation.

Amends the relocation provisions to incorporate immigration-status coercion as a criterion for the court to consider in a petition for relocation. Requires courts to set relocation petitions for hearing as soon as practicable if a parent submits a sworn statement and documentation that their lawful status expires within 180 days and that they have an inability or difficulty renewing their status due to the other parent's immigration-status coercion.

- 3-27-26: Re-referred to Rules Committee.

HB 5405: TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS

Amends the IMDMA.

Provides that a court may terminate parental rights if the petitioning parent proves by clear and convincing evidence that the respondent parent has abandoned the child; or engaged in a prolonged failure, without good cause, to provide reasonable financial support for or to maintain meaningful contact or visitation with the child, although able to do so. [READ MORE...](#)

SB 3080: PROJECT SUCCESS PILOT PROGRAM

Amends the Department of Human Services Act. Requires DHS to establish a Project Success Pilot Program aimed at improving child and family well-being. [READ MORE...](#)

SB 2873: HEALTHCARE FOR ALL

Creates the Health Care for All Illinois Act.

Provides that all individuals residing in this State are covered under the Illinois Health Services Program for health insurance. Sets forth requirements and qualifications of participating health care providers.

- 4-24-26: Third reading deadline established as May 15, 2026.

HR 6903: FEDERAL LEGISLATION—ENSURING CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORT ACT

Amends 42 USC 652(k). The bill would require the Secretary of State to revoke any U.S. passport on receipt of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services that the individual has a child support arrearage exceeding \$2,500.

This bill would change the current permissive language regarding the revocation of passports to a mandatory provision. It would also require notice prior to the revocation.

- 4-28-26: Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.



IFSEA Board of Directors- Who Are We & Why Should YOU Join!

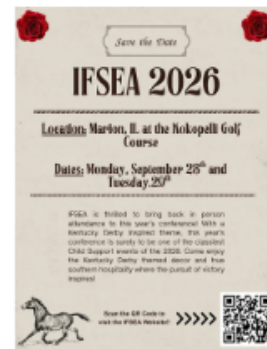
Ever wonder how IFSEA's conference is coordinated? Or wanted to have a say in the type of food served or the venue that is selected? If so, then joining the IFSEA Board of Directors sounds like the correct next step for you!

The IFSEA Board of Directors is responsible for everything IFSEA this includes but is not limited to:

- **Strategic Planning:** ensuring the conference agenda aligns with Child Support Services' missions and values.
- **Financial Planning:** reviewing proposals for venues, hotel rooms, and food to ensure they planned budget falls within IFSEA's available means as well as ensuring compliance with financial regulations as set forth by the by laws.
- **Governance:** oversees the governance structure of IFSEA to ensure it complies with the by laws.
- **Leadership:** the Board of Directors is integral is voting for and determining the conference leadership team.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** engagement with the IFSEA members to ensure the agenda items in the conference as well as the conference itself are topics that interest the members.

As we approach the starting gate for IFSEA 2026, begin thinking about whether or not you would be interested in joining the IFSEA Board of Directors. Then be on the look out for the IFSEA Nominations for Board of Directors email which will go out ahead of the conference. This email will detail which board member positions are currently up for re-election and how to nominate yourself or someone else.

Click for a printable Save the Date flyer to display in your office or send to staff!



Check Out Our Website!!

Here you will find information on this year's conference, presentations from previous years, award winners, current Board of Directors listing, By-Laws, gallery of pictures from past conferences, and more!



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