OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR

FROM: SMITH

SUBJECT: CHILD SUPPORT **DRAFT DRAFT HOLD FOR NOW**

DATE: 8/20/02

CC: RENICK, TELL, LEE ANN, KINNEY, PROSPERE

I met with Alsee McDaniel, Director of Child Support Collections at DHHS, and discussed the following:

- There are cases currently being held at MDHS that are eligible for referral to the District Attorney's Office. (There may also be cases that are eligible for referral to the AG's Office and US Attorneys Office, depending on how much support is owed by the non-custodial parent). When the DHHS staff attorneys talk to the district attorneys, some say they can't/won't accept the case. Some won't take the cases because of backlog in their office, too. The DHHS attorneys are keeping these cases and continue civil proceedings when the DA refuses to accept them. **Is there anything we can do about the district attorneys refusing to take these cases that meet criteria for referral?**

- Mr. McDaniel said that his staff does attend Chancery meetings but does not attend meetings with the district attorneys. Is that something we can help with?

My recommendation would be for DHHS staff to meet with the DA's and see if they can work something out. Mr. McDaniel said that if they just referred the cases when the DA refuses to accept, nothing would happen with the case and DHHS would rather at least continue the civil proceedings.