**Policy Clarification**

**SNAP**

**PFS-19339-550**

**Submitted: 7/11/2019 Agency: CAOs**

**Subject: Paying Court Ordered Support to Child in the Household**

**Question:** A household of 6. The father was at one time, was absent from the household and was responsible to pay court ordered support for the children. He moved back in and has continued to pay support to the common children in the household as the support order remains in place and it is being garnished from his SSD benefits.

We know that the household is not entitled to the support deduction because the support is not being paid for children outside the household (SNAP HB 560.61). However, we have not been able to find any information on whether the support he is paying for the children in the household should be counted as unearned income for the household.

Should we count the support received by the children as unearned income even though the LRR paying the support is in the household?

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| **Response by: Policy Clarification Unit Date:** |  |

No.  Per SNAPH 550.3, the CAO must use the gross amount of unearned income with no deductions given.  For this reason, the CAO must count the full amount of Social Security benefits before the support is garnished.  In addition, the CAO will not count income twice when the support income is included in the gross income of the Social Security benefit and paid to a household member.