
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EARLY INTERVENTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The department of health provides early
2 intervention services, from birth to age three years, to infants
3 and toddlers who have a developmental delay or are at biological
4 risk for delay in communication, cognitive, physical, social-
5 emotional, or adaptive development. Early intervention services
6 are mandated by part C of the Individuals with Disabilities
7 Education Act and under state law.

8 The legislature finds that access to early intervention
9 services, combined with parent coaching, reduces the severity of
10 developmental delay and better prepares families of children
11 with complex needs who may require lifelong care and support.
12 Studies have shown the benefits of early intervention services,
13 including improvements in children's verbal abilities, receptive
14 language scores, and overall cognitive performance. Early
15 intervention services also translate to additional benefits for
16 children as they age, including improvements in academic
17 performance, endorsement of less risky behaviors, fewer arrests,



1 and lower dropout rates. A 2003 report from the Federal Reserve
2 Bank of Minneapolis found an economic advantage of quality
3 intervention services equal to an \$8 return for every \$1
4 invested in early intervention. The report also estimated that
5 eighty per cent of the benefits were directly applicable to
6 overall society, due to a more efficient use of school services
7 and less use of criminal justice and other public systems.

8 The legislature further finds that the department of
9 health's early intervention section data system is antiquated
10 and lacks the web-based capability for real-time access to data,
11 access from multiple locations, service documentation, report
12 generation, quality assurance, and billing functions. The
13 legislature notes that thirty-four other states have web-based
14 early intervention data systems.

15 The legislature additionally finds that the department of
16 health provides early intervention services through twenty state
17 and purchase-of-service programs for approximately 3,500
18 children each year. This large system of services requires an
19 updated web-based system. The proposed data system will
20 increase efficiency and quality in providing early intervention
21 services by streamlining program and administrative processes,



1 automating processes that are currently done by paper or
 2 manually, and improving accountability. The proposed data
 3 system will also reduce inefficiencies in use of staff time,
 4 duplicate data entry, and manual entry for medicaid
 5 reimbursement, personnel tracking, contract tracking, auditing
 6 program service delivery, and state and federal reporting.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
 8 procurement and maintenance of and training for a web-based data
 9 system in the department of health's early intervention section.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
 13 sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for
 14 fiscal year 2018-2019 for the procurement of a web-based data
 15 system in the early intervention section of the department of
 16 health and for the maintenance and training required to support
 17 the web-based data system.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 19 of health for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2090.



Report Title:

Early Intervention; Department of Health; Web-based Data System; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the procurement and maintenance of and training for a web-based data system in the Department of Health's Early Intervention Section. (HB918 HD1)

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