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

8 The legislature finds that early access to early
9 intervention services, combined with parent coaching, reduces
10 developmental delay and better prepares families of children
11 with complex needs who may require lifelong care and supports.
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 purposes. 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, manual entry for medicaid reimbursement,
5 personnel tracking, contract tracking, auditing program service
6 delivery, and state and federal reporting.

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

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

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

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H.B. NO. 918

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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H.B. NO. 918

Report Title:

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

Description:

Appropriates funds for the procurement of, and maintenance and training for, a web-based data system in the department of health's early intervention section.

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