
HOUSE BILL 2596

State of Washington

58th Legislature

2004 Regular Session

By Representatives Dickerson, Kagi, Kirby, Quall, Schual-Berke, G. Simpson, Tom, Kenney, McDermott, Boldt, Wood, Linville, Chase, Lantz, O'Brien, Haigh, Conway, Morrell, Miloscia, Kessler, Santos and Clibborn

Read first time 01/16/2004. Referred to Committee on Children & Family Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to early intervention services for children with
2 disabilities; and adding new sections to chapter 28A.155 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.155
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 The legislature finds an urgent and substantial need to enhance the
7 development of all infants and toddlers with disabilities in Washington
8 in order to minimize developmental delays and to maximize individual
9 potential for learning and functioning.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.155
11 RCW to read as follows:

12 By September 1, 2008, each school district shall provide or
13 contract for early intervention services to all eligible children with
14 disabilities from birth to three years of age. Eligibility shall be
15 determined according to Part C of the federal individuals with
16 disabilities education act and as specified in WAC 392-172-114. School
17 districts shall provide or contract for early intervention services in
18 partnership with local birth-to-three lead agencies and birth-to-three

1 providers. Services provided under this section shall not supplant
2 services or funding currently provided in the state for early
3 intervention services to eligible children with disabilities from birth
4 to three years of age. The state-designated birth-to-three lead agency
5 shall be payor of last resort for birth-to-three early intervention
6 services provided under this section.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.155
8 RCW to read as follows:

9 (1) There is established a birth-to-three task force to make
10 recommendations concerning policies, procedures, and regulations in
11 order to ensure implementation of an equitable statewide comprehensive
12 system for all eligible children with disabilities from birth to three
13 years of age.

14 (2) Members of the task force shall be jointly appointed by the
15 governor and the superintendent of public instruction by July 1, 2004,
16 and shall include, at a minimum, the following:

17 (a) Representatives of the following: Special education operations
18 within the office of superintendent of public instruction; the
19 Washington association of school administrators; the Washington state
20 school directors' association; an educational service district; the
21 special education advisory council; the infant toddler early
22 intervention program within the department of social and health
23 services; the developmental disabilities section of the association of
24 county human services; the medical assistance administration within the
25 department of social and health services; the governor's head start
26 state collaboration office; the division of child care and early
27 learning within the department of social and health services; the
28 children with special health care needs program within the department
29 of health; a local health department/district; an Indian tribe
30 providing early intervention services; the Washington state chapter of
31 the American academy of pediatrics; the early childhood development
32 association of Washington; the neurodevelopmental centers of
33 Washington; a nonprofit local birth-to-three lead agency, which is not
34 already represented in the membership of the task force; and an
35 advocacy group for children with disabilities from birth to three years
36 of age and their families; and

1 (b) A special education director from a school district providing
2 early intervention services; a special education director from a school
3 district not providing early intervention services; and four members of
4 the state interagency coordinating council for infants and toddlers
5 with disabilities and their families, three of whom shall be parents.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.155
7 RCW to read as follows:

8 The birth-to-three task force shall submit a report to the governor
9 and the superintendent of public instruction by December 1, 2006,
10 outlining their recommendations.

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