

House Amendment 8387

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1 1 Amend Senate File 2298, as amended, passed, and
1 2 reprinted by the Senate, as follows:
1 3 #1. Page 128, by inserting after line 4 the
1 4 following:
1 5 _____. ADOPTION SUBSIDY PROGRAM.
1 6 1. It is the intent of the general assembly that
1 7 the department of human services reduce the monthly
1 8 reimbursement rate for the basic category in the
1 9 maintenance portion of the adoption subsidy program
1 10 applicable to recipients who enter into presubsidy or
1 11 preadoptive subsidy agreements on or after July 1,
1 12 2004, in order to achieve a minimum annual state
1 13 savings of \$288,000 during the fiscal year beginning
1 14 July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005. The
1 15 percentage reduction in the reimbursement rate shall
1 16 be 25 percent for the 0=5 years of age age group, 20
1 17 percent for the 6=11 years of age age group, and 10
1 18 percent for the 12 years of age and older age group.
1 19 2. a. It is the intent of the general assembly
1 20 that the department of human services maximize receipt
1 21 of the federal funding available for the adoption
1 22 subsidy program. The department may negotiate
1 23 existing adoption agreements solely for the purpose of
1 24 maximizing federal funding. However, any revision of
1 25 an existing adoption agreement shall not result in the
1 26 reduction of benefits to adoptive families.
1 27 b. The limitation on attorney fees under the
1 28 program shall be \$500 per recipient.
1 29 c. The department of human services shall attempt
1 30 to develop a method to obtain federal matching funds
1 31 for adoption subsidy program recipient out-of-pocket
1 32 payments to attorneys, for the portion of attorney
1 33 fees that exceed the cap on attorney fees under the
1 34 program.
1 35 d. The department of human services shall attempt
1 36 to obtain federal matching funds for adoption subsidy
1 37 program recipient out-of-pocket payments for child
1 38 care fees that exceed that applicable reimbursement
1 39 rate established under the child care assistance
1 40 program.
1 41 e. If cost-effective and in compliance with
1 42 federal law and regulation, the department of human
1 43 services may implement a sliding benefit scale based
1 44 upon income, for all or a portion of the adoption
1 45 presubsidy or preadoptive subsidy agreements entered
1 46 into on or after July 1, 2004.
1 47 3. It is the intent of the general assembly that
1 48 beginning July 1, 2004, adoption subsidy agreements
1 49 entered into on or after that date shall be
1 50 administered uniformly throughout the state.
2 1 4. It is the intent of the general assembly that
2 2 the department of human services adopt rules to
2 3 specify that a child of a minority race or ethnic
2 4 group, or whose biological parents are of different
2 5 races, and who is less than one year of age, shall not
2 6 be deemed a special needs child for the purposes of
2 7 presubsidy or preadoptive subsidy agreements entered
2 8 into on or after July 1, 2004.
2 9 5. It is the intent of the general assembly that
2 10 the child care subsidy payments for individuals who
2 11 entered into presubsidy or preadoptive subsidy
2 12 agreements prior to July 1, 2004, shall not be
2 13 governed by the rate ceilings under the department of
2 14 human services' child care assistance programs or be
2 15 required to meet the specifications of a specialized
2 16 program as specified in administrative rules.
2 17 6. It is the intent of the general assembly that
2 18 any rules relating to the adoption subsidy program for
2 19 which the effective date is delayed pursuant to
2 20 section 17A.8, subsection 9, shall take effect unless
2 21 legislation enacted by the general assembly conflicts
2 22 with such rules.
2 23 7. The legislative council is requested to
2 24 establish an interim study committee to review the

2 25 adoption subsidy program, which includes a review of
2 26 current practices regarding the determination of
2 27 subsidy levels, disparities in subsidy levels among
2 28 regions of the state, program costs and benefits, the
2 29 fiscal and programmatic impact of projected future
2 30 program growth, a thorough analysis of the demographic
2 31 factors of the adoptive families as well as the
2 32 adoptive children's special needs, and quantification
2 33 of savings in other programs and services resulting
2 34 from the utilization of the adoption subsidy program.
2 35 The committee shall seek input from the department of
2 36 human services, adoptive parents and others with
2 37 experience or expertise with the adoption subsidy
2 38 program and related services and supports. The
2 39 interim committee shall submit a report of its
2 40 findings and recommendations to the general assembly
2 41 no later than December 1, 2004.>

2 42 #2. Page 138, by inserting after line 15 the
2 43 following:

2 44 <____. The section of this division of this Act
2 45 relating to the adoption subsidy program>.

2 46 #3. By renumbering as necessary.

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