

Senate Study Bill 2166

Conference Committee Text

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 7E.8 SERVICES TO CHILDREN AND
1 2 FAMILIES – STATE AGENCIES – DIRECTIVE.
1 3 The directors of state agencies which provide services to
1 4 children and families, including but not limited to the
1 5 department of human services, the Iowa department of public
1 6 health, the department of education, the department of
1 7 economic development, the department of employment services,
1 8 and the department of human rights, shall form a work group,
1 9 which also includes service providers and community leaders,
1 10 to internally coordinate and to increase collaboration
1 11 regarding policies and programs which focus on children and
1 12 families. The work group shall develop a joint strategic plan
1 13 to reduce regulation, to eliminate duplication, and to develop
1 14 a system for evaluation of existing and future programs and
1 15 activities relating to children and families. The work group
1 16 shall submit a comprehensive report to the general assembly
1 17 detailing the progress in meeting the directive, initially,
1 18 prior to the end of the 1996 Session of the general assembly
1 19 and, annually, thereafter, on or before December 1.
1 20 Sec. 2. IOWA HEALTHY FAMILY PROGRAM EXPANSION STATEWIDE.
1 21 The Iowa department of public health shall develop a plan
1 22 including recommendations for increased funding to expand the
1 23 Iowa healthy family program established in section 135.106
1 24 statewide. The plan shall be submitted to the general
1 25 assembly on or before December 1, 1996.
1 26 Sec. 3. APPROPRIATIONS RELATING TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
1 27 – PROVISION IN THE FORM OF BLOCK GRANTS. The general
1 28 assembly shall develop a process, using the criteria set out
1 29 in this section, to appropriate state funds in block grant
1 30 form to communities for programs for families with children
1 31 between zero and five years of age.
1 32 The funds, in block grant form, shall be allocated to a
1 33 community which may be a city, a county, a school district, or
1 34 a group of cities, counties, or school districts for which a
1 35 city government, a county board of supervisors, or a school
2 1 district or a group of city governments, county boards of
2 2 supervisors, or school districts submits an application for
2 3 funding services to families with children between zero and
2 4 five years of age.
2 5 The application shall be submitted to the department of
2 6 management and shall propose a collaborative community
2 7 strategy through participation of a wide range of consumers
2 8 and public, private sector, and voluntary groups and
2 9 organizations within the community in the development and
2 10 implementation of the plan; to provide matching funds in an
2 11 amount designated by the department of management based upon
2 12 the number of families with children between zero and five
2 13 years of age in the community; and to evaluate programs
2 14 through state-developed performance measures.
2 15 The department of management shall develop criteria for and
2 16 a procedure for the approval of community plans, determine the
2 17 number of families within a community with children between
2 18 zero and five years of age, and develop performance measures,
2 19 in consultation with state agencies which provide services to
2 20 these families including but not limited to the department of
2 21 human services, the Iowa department of public health, the

2 22 department of education, the department of economic
2 23 development, the department of employment services, and the
2 24 department of human rights.

2 25 EXPLANATION

2 26 This bill includes provisions relating to services provided
2 27 to children and families which include:

2 28 1. Directing state agencies which are involved in
2 29 providing services to children and families to form a work
2 30 group, which also includes service providers and community
2 31 leaders, to internally coordinate and to increase
2 32 collaboration regarding policies and programs which focus on
2 33 children and families. The work group is directed to develop
2 34 a strategic plan to reduce regulation, eliminate duplication,
2 35 and to develop a system for evaluation of existing and future

3 1 programs and activities relating to children and families.
3 2 The work group is to submit a progress report to the general
3 3 assembly, initially prior to the completion of the 1996
3 4 Session and annually, thereafter on or before December 1.

3 5 2. Directing the Iowa department of public health to
3 6 develop a plan including recommendations for increased funding
3 7 to expand the Iowa healthy families program statewide. The
3 8 plan is to be submitted to the general assembly on or before
3 9 December 1, 1996.

3 10 3. Directing the general assembly to develop a process to
3 11 appropriate state funds in block grant form to communities for
3 12 programs for families with children between zero and five
3 13 years of age. The department of management, in consultation
3 14 with state agencies which provide services to these families,
3 15 is directed to develop criteria for and a procedure for the
3 16 approval of community plans, determine the number of families
3 17 within a community with children between zero and five years
3 18 of age, and develop performance measures to evaluate the
3 19 plans. The application submitted by a city government, a
3 20 county board of supervisors, or a school district or a
3 21 coalition of these entities for funding of a plan must propose
3 22 a collaborative community strategy developed and to be
3 23 implemented through participation of a wide range of community
3 24 interests, to provide matching funds in an amount designated
3 25 by the department of management, and to evaluate programs
3 26 through state-developed performance measures.

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