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SENATE FILE 371
BY SZYMONIAK

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for the establishment of a healthy opportunities
2 for parents to experience success-healthy families Iowa
3 program by the Iowa department of public health.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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S.F. 371

1 Section 1. Section 135.106, Code 1997, is amended by
2 striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the
3 following:

4 135.106 IOWA HEALTHY FAMILY PROGRAM -- ESTABLISHED.

5 1. The Iowa department of public health shall establish a
6 healthy opportunities for parents to experience success
7 (HOPES)-healthy families Iowa (HFI) program to provide
8 services to families and children during the prenatal through
9 preschool years. The program shall be designed to do all of
10 the following:

- 11 a. Promote optimal child health and development.
- 12 b. Improve family coping skills and functioning.
- 13 c. Promote positive parenting skills and intrafamilial
14 interaction.
- 15 d. Prevent child abuse and neglect and infant mortality
16 and morbidity.

17 2. The HOPES program shall be developed by the Iowa
18 department of public health, and may be implemented, in whole
19 or in part, by contracting with a nonprofit child abuse
20 prevention organization, local nonprofit certified home health
21 program or other local nonprofit organizations, and shall
22 include, but is not limited to, all of the following
23 components:

- 24 a. Identification of barriers to positive birth outcomes,
25 encouragement of collaboration and cooperation among providers
26 of health care, social and human services, and other services
27 to pregnant women and infants, and encouragement of pregnant
28 women and women of childbearing age to seek health care and
29 other services which promote positive birth outcomes.
- 30 b. Provision of community-based home-visiting family
31 support to pregnant women and new parents who are identified
32 through a standardized screening process to be at high risk
33 for problems with successfully parenting their child.
- 34 c. Provision by family support workers of individual
35 guidance, information, and access to health care and other

1 services through care coordination and community outreach,
2 including transportation.

3 d. Provision of systematic screening, prenatally or upon
4 the birth of a child, to identify high-risk families.

5 e. Interviewing by a HOPES program worker or hospital
6 social worker of families identified as high risk and
7 encouragement of acceptance of family support services.

8 f. Provision of services including, but not limited to,
9 home visits, support services, and instruction in child care
10 and development.

11 g. Individualization of the intensity and scope of
12 services based upon the family's needs, goals, and level of
13 risk.

14 h. Assistance by a family support worker to participating
15 families in creating a link to a "medical home" in order to
16 promote preventive health care.

17 i. Evaluation and reporting on the program, including an
18 evaluation of the program's success in reducing participants'
19 risk factors and provision of services and recommendations for
20 changes in or expansion of the program.

21 j. Provision of continuous follow-up contact with a family
22 served by the program until identified children reach age
23 three or age four in cases of continued high need or until the
24 family attains its individualized goals for health,
25 functioning, and self-sufficiency.

26 k. Provision or employment of family support workers who
27 have experience as a parent, knowledge of health care
28 services, social and human services or related community
29 services and have participated in a structured training
30 program.

31 l. Provision of a training program that meets established
32 standards for the education of family support workers. The
33 structured training program shall include at a minimum the
34 fundamentals of child health and development, dynamics of
35 child abuse and neglect, and principles of effective parenting

1 and parenting education.

2 m. Provision of crisis child care through utilization of
3 existing child care services to participants in the program.

4 n. Program criteria shall include a required match of one
5 dollar provided by the organization contracting to deliver
6 services for each two dollars provided by the state grant.

7 This requirement shall not restrict the department from
8 providing unmatched grant funds to communities to plan new or
9 expanded programs for HOPES. The department shall establish a
10 limit on the amount of administrative costs that can be
11 supported with state funds.

12 o. Involvement with the community assessment and planning
13 process in the community served by HOPES programs to enhance
14 collaboration and integration of family support programs.

15 p. Collaboration, to the greatest extent possible, with
16 other family support programs funded or operated by the state.

17 q. Utilization of private party, third party, and medical
18 assistance for reimbursement to defray the costs of services
19 provided by the program to the extent possible.

20 EXPLANATION

21 This bill provides for the establishment of a healthy
22 opportunities for parents to experience success (HOPES)-
23 healthy families Iowa (HFI) program by the Iowa department of
24 public health. The program shall be designed to provide
25 services to children and families during the prenatal through
26 preschool years, and is intended to promote optimal child
27 health and development, improve family coping skills and
28 functions, promote positive parenting skills and intrafamilial
29 interaction, and prevent child abuse and neglect and infant
30 mortality and morbidity. The program may be implemented
31 through contracting with nonprofit organizations. The bill
32 requires the program to include a number of specific program
33 components.

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