

MAR 8 1999
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 550

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and KREIMAN

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to and making appropriations for early childhood
2 programs involving community empowerment areas and the child
3 development coordinating council.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 550

1 Section 1. SCHOOL READY CHILDREN GRANTS -- HOME VISITATION
 2 AND PARENT SUPPORT GRANTS. There is appropriated from the
 3 general fund of the state to the Iowa empowerment fund created
 4 in section 7I.8 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999,
 5 and ending June 30, 2000, the following amounts, or so much
 6 thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes
 7 designated:

8 1. To be credited to the school ready children grants
 9 account to be used for the second year of school ready
 10 children grants initially awarded in the fiscal year beginning
 11 July 1, 1998:

12 \$ 5,200,000

13 2. To be credited to the home visitation and parent
 14 support services program account created by this Act:

15 \$ 4,000,000

16 The services funded under this subsection shall conform
 17 with the requirements for home visitation and parent support
 18 services developed in accordance with section 7I.7A, as
 19 enacted by this Act.

20 The funding appropriated in this subsection shall be
 21 subject to a distribution formula which provides an initial
 22 allocation of moneys among the political subdivisions of this
 23 state. Fifty percent of the moneys shall be allocated based
 24 upon a political subdivision's proportion of the state's
 25 general population of persons who are less than forty years of
 26 age and 50 percent of the moneys shall be allocated based upon
 27 a political subdivision's proportion of the state's population
 28 of children from age birth to three years in families with an
 29 annual income which is equal to or less than 185 percent of
 30 the federal poverty level as estimated by the Iowa department
 31 of public health. Only a community empowerment area
 32 designated by the Iowa empowerment board but not fully funded
 33 for a school ready children grant as of January 1, 2000, may
 34 apply for the funding allocated for the political subdivisions
 35 encompassed by the community empowerment area. The initial

1 allocation shall be adjusted to reflect current state funding .
 2 in the community empowerment area for HOPES-HFI programs under
 3 section 135.106 and child development coordinating council
 4 grants for providing educational support services to parents
 5 of children age birth through three years. Moneys not
 6 distributed due to these adjustments shall be reallocated
 7 using the distribution formula for those areas which do not
 8 receive funding under the other state grant programs. Moneys
 9 initially allocated for an area for which an application was
 10 not received, shall remain available in the account for
 11 distribution under the formula in the succeeding fiscal year.

12 3. For funding of technical assistance and for development
 13 of the requirements for home visitation and parent support
 14 services developed in accordance with this Act:

15 \$ 200,000

16 Moneys appropriated in this subsection may be transferred
 17 to the appropriate state agency, subject to the notification
 18 and reporting requirements under section 8.39.

19 4. The Iowa empowerment board and the departments of
 20 education, human services, and public health shall make every
 21 effort to reduce or eliminate duplicative requirements that
 22 are barriers to community efforts to improve the efficiency
 23 and effectiveness of grants funded under this section and of
 24 other local education, health, and human services programs.

25 Sec. 2. AT-RISK CHILDREN. There is appropriated from the
 26 general fund of the state to the department of education in
 27 addition to other funding appropriated in section 279.51 for
 28 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June 30,
 29 2000, the following amount, or so much thereof as is
 30 necessary, to be used for the purpose designated:

31 For expansion of grants by the child development
 32 coordinating council to programs for three and four-year-old
 33 children deemed at-risk:

34 \$ 1,000,000

35 A grantee receiving funding under this section must be an

1 active participant in a designated community empowerment area
2 that is not currently receiving child development coordinating
3 council funding and is not funded under a school ready
4 children grant.

5 Sec. 3. Section 7I.2, subsection 6, Code 1999, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 6. Staffing services to the Iowa board shall be provided
8 by the state agencies which are represented on the Iowa board
9 and by other state agencies making staffing available to the
10 board. For technical assistance to community empowerment
11 areas, the state agency staff shall provide training and
12 coordination for designated regional education, health, and
13 human services staff to provide facilitation and other
14 support. The designated regional staff shall serve as state
15 liaisons to community empowerment areas.

16 Sec. 4. NEW SECTION. 7I.7A HOME VISITATION AND PARENT
17 SUPPORT SERVICES GRANTS.

18 1. In order to improve the consistency and quality of
19 state-funded home visitation and parent support services, the
20 Iowa empowerment board shall develop standard requirements
21 which may be applied to the services. The Iowa empowerment
22 board shall consult with community empowerment area boards,
23 the Iowa department of public health, the department of
24 education, the department of human services, and existing
25 providers of home visitation and parent support services in
26 the development of any requirements under this section. In
27 implementing funding of home visitation and parent support
28 services program and incorporating such services into school
29 ready children grants, the Iowa empowerment board shall do all
30 of the following:

31 a. Develop minimum program and reporting requirements.
32 The requirements may include but are not limited to standards
33 for access to or referrals for the services, minimum frequency
34 and duration of services, required collaboration with specific
35 federal or state programs, and reporting on the impact of the

1 provision of services.

2 b. Develop a list of the funding sources that must be
3 coordinated within a community empowerment area as part of
4 providing the services.

5 c. Develop a listing of and description of the home
6 visitation and parent support services that are proven to be
7 effective models. In addition, sponsor activities to promote
8 awareness of the effective models.

9 d. Design and periodically revise a standard assessment
10 protocol for newborn infants and families. The protocol shall
11 be designed to offer appropriate home visitation and parent
12 support services as an option for all parents of newborn
13 infants. The protocol shall be designed and any revisions
14 developed in consultation with the association of Iowa
15 hospitals and health systems, and the Iowa cooperative
16 extension service in agriculture and home economics, and other
17 appropriate service providers.

18 e. Develop informational kits for parents receiving home
19 visitation services under the home visitation and parent
20 support services program or a school ready children grant.
21 The kits may include written, recorded, graphic, and other
22 media materials providing developmental resources, as well as
23 listings of other sources for the materials. The kits shall
24 be designed to be made available to or adapted for other
25 potential users such as child day care providers and similar
26 developmental programs.

27 2. As part of an initiative to provide statewide
28 availability of home visitation and parent support services to
29 families with newborn infants, the Iowa empowerment board
30 shall develop a funding program for these services. The
31 program shall be initially available to those community
32 empowerment areas which have not received full funding for a
33 school ready children grant. The requirements applicable to
34 home visitation and parent support services shall apply to
35 fully funded school ready children grantees upon grant renewal

1 on or after the effective date of this Act. The Iowa
2 empowerment board shall make every effort to assist any school
3 ready children grantee who elects to implement the
4 requirements prior to renewal. Every effort shall be made by
5 the Iowa empowerment board and applicants for the program to
6 coordinate and integrate services in a manner to make the best
7 use of other funding sources for similar services, including
8 healthy opportunities for parents to experience success
9 (HOPES)-healthy families Iowa (HFI) programs established
10 pursuant to section 135.106 and child development coordinating
11 council grants providing educational support services to
12 parents of at-risk children age birth through three years
13 funded under section 279.51, subsection 2, paragraph "b".

14 3. The minimum home visitation and parent support service
15 requirements applicable to HOPES-HFI programs established
16 pursuant to section 135.106 and to child development
17 coordinating council grants for providing educational support
18 services to parents of at-risk children age birth through
19 three years funded under section 279.51, subsection 2,
20 paragraph "b", shall be revised to conform with the minimum
21 requirements for such services established under this section.
22 The revised requirements shall be applicable on or before July
23 1, 2000.

24 Sec. 5. Section 71.8, Code 1999, is amended by adding the
25 following new subsection:

26 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A home visitation and parent support
27 services program account is created in the Iowa empowerment
28 fund under the authority of the director of public health.
29 Moneys credited to the account shall be distributed by the
30 Iowa department of public health for funding of home
31 visitation and parent support services programs operated by
32 community empowerment areas pursuant to requirements
33 established by the Iowa board in accordance with law.

34 Sec. 6. Section 279.51, subsection 2, paragraph b,
35 subparagraph (2), Code 1999, is amended to read as follows:

1 (2) To provide grants to provide educational support
2 services to parents of at-risk children age birth through
3 three years. Effective July 1, 1999, a new grant recipient
4 must be an active participant in a community empowerment area
5 designated under chapter 7I.

6 EXPLANATION

7 This bill ~~relates to and~~ makes appropriations for early
8 childhood programs involving community empowerment areas and
9 the child development coordinating council.

10 The bill appropriates \$5.2 million to the Iowa empowerment
11 fund's school ready children grants account to fund the second
12 year of existing grants. This account is under the authority
13 of the director of the department of education for
14 distribution in accordance with criteria developed by the Iowa
15 empowerment board for purposes of technical assistance to
16 community empowerment areas. In addition, the bill
17 appropriates \$4.0 million to a new account in the fund for a
18 home visitation and parent support services program to be
19 developed by the Iowa empowerment board as provided in the
20 bill. The bill includes a funding allocation formula for
21 distribution of moneys through the community empowerment areas
22 designated as of January 1, 2000. An appropriation of
23 \$200,000 is provided for technical assistance and other costs.

24 The bill appropriates \$1 million to the department of
25 education to be used for expansion of grants by the child
26 development coordinating council to school districts
27 establishing programs for three and four-year-old children
28 deemed at-risk. Grantees must be active participants in a
29 community empowerment area which is not currently receiving a
30 fully funded school ready children grant or child development
31 coordinating council funding.

32 Code section 7I.2, relating to the Iowa empowerment board,
33 is amended to specify how staffing services are to be provided
34 by state agencies through the use of state agency regional
35 staff.

1 New Code section 71.7A requires the Iowa empowerment board
 2 to develop a standard set of requirements for the home
 3 visitation and parent support services program. The Iowa
 4 empowerment board is to consult with various departments and
 5 others administering similar programs. Various requirements
 6 for the service components are specified. The minimum
 7 requirements for these services adopted by the Iowa
 8 empowerment board are to be applicable by July 1, 2000, to
 9 healthy opportunities for parents to experience success
 10 (HOPES)-healthy families Iowa (HFI) grants and to child
 11 development coordinating council grants providing educational
 12 support services to parents of at-risk children age birth
 13 through three years. In addition, the Iowa empowerment board
 14 is to implement a program for these services. The program is
 15 to be available to community empowerment areas which are not
 16 receiving a fully funded school ready children grant.

17 The bill creates a home visitation and parent support
 18 services program account in the Iowa empowerment fund. The
 19 account is to be administered by the director of public health
 20 pursuant to requirements established by the Iowa empowerment
 21 board.

22 Code section 279.51, relating to the funding of programs
 23 for at-risk children, is amended to provide that beginning on
 24 July 1, 1999, new grantees must be active participants in
 25 community empowerment areas.

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