

MAR 10 1999

HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE
BY FOEGE

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act establishing a pilot project to provide services to
2 children and families experiencing the effects of reactive
3 attachment disorder, and providing an appropriation.
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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1 Section 1. REACTIVE ATTACHMENT DISORDER (RAD) -- PILOT
2 PROJECT -- APPROPRIATION.

3 1. The department of human services shall implement a
4 reactive attachment disorder (RAD) pilot project in three
5 locations in the state, by October 1, 2000.

6 2. The purpose of the pilot project is to provide training
7 and education to therapists and others who provide services
8 through the department to children with reactive attachment
9 disorder.

10 3. The department shall contract with a person providing
11 such training, which includes instruction in the use of
12 dynamic attachment therapy and holding techniques. The
13 training and education shall include, but are not limited to,
14 all of the following:

15 a. Providing direct treatment to children with reactive
16 attachment disorder.

17 b. Providing direct education to and consultation with the
18 parents of these children.

19 c. Educating and training with therapists who provide
20 services to such children, and providing participating
21 therapists with apprenticeship training in the therapy and
22 techniques.

23 d. Educating and training other interested persons,
24 including social workers, educators, medical professionals,
25 hospital personnel, psychiatrists, psychologists, parents, and
26 other persons in the causes of reactive attachment disorder
27 and in techniques used in addressing the disorder.

28 4. The department shall submit progress reports to the
29 general assembly by January 1, 2000, and by October 15, 2000,
30 regarding the program and including any recommendations for
31 termination, continuation, or expansion of the program.

32 5. For the purposes of this section:

33 a. "Dynamic attachment therapy" means a highly
34 specialized, therapeutic continuum of techniques used to
35 recreate the attachment cycle, including the use of holding

1 techniques.

2 b. "Holding therapy" means cradling the child with
3 reactive attachment disorder in a secure manner and practicing
4 bonding techniques, such as movement, touch, smiling, and
5 voice and eye contact, to instill a sense of safety and
6 security.

7 c. "Reactive attachment disorder" means a disorder
8 resulting from the lack of reasonable care and nurturance,
9 usually in the early years of life, which results in the
10 inability to establish normal, stable attachments to
11 caregivers and others.

12 Sec. 2. APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the
13 general fund of the state to the department of human services
14 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1999, and ending June
15 30, 2000, the following amount, or so much thereof as is
16 necessary, to implement a reactive attachment disorder pilot
17 project in three areas of the state:

18 \$ 75,000

19 EXPLANATION

20 This bill directs the department of human services to
21 implement a reactive attachment disorder (RAD) pilot project
22 in three locations in the state by October 1, 2000. The bill
23 directs the department to contract with a person to provide
24 training and education to therapists relating to RAD, and
25 directs the department to submit progress reports to the
26 general assembly regarding the pilot program. The bill also
27 provides for appropriation of \$75,000 to the department for
28 the pilot program.

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