

House File 366 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 366

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A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to children's health by creating a center for
2 child health excellence and innovation.

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

1 Section 1. Section 135.11, Code 2013, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 32. Create and operate, subject to
4 appropriation of funding by the general assembly, a center for
5 child health excellence and innovation. The purpose of the
6 center is to provide a policy forum for efforts to improve
7 child health, including but not limited to improving health
8 quality, demonstrating better health outcomes, and reducing
9 long-term health care costs.

10 a. The center shall engage major providers of child health
11 services, including but not limited to representatives of the
12 department, the medical assistance program administrator,
13 child health specialty clinics, the association representing
14 community health centers, and others.

15 b. The center shall lead the review and analysis of public
16 policy efforts that are directed toward the purpose of the
17 center.

18 c. The center shall develop community-based initiatives
19 to promote healthy child development, leveraging medical
20 assistance program funding where possible. The initiatives
21 shall include but are not limited to the promotion of
22 demonstration programs within the behavioral health managed
23 care contract and the development of a grant application for
24 federal and foundation funding opportunities that focus upon
25 improving child health through innovation and the diffusion of
26 innovation.

27 d. The center shall develop an early childhood mental health
28 certification for professionals and others engaged in working
29 with young children.

30 e. The center shall draw upon national and state
31 expertise in the field of child health, including experts
32 from Iowa's institutions of higher education, health provider
33 organizations, and health policy and advocacy organizations.
34 The center shall seek support from the Iowa research
35 community in data report development and analysis of available

1 information from Iowa child health data sources.

2 *f.* The center shall work with the departments of human
3 services and public health and with the governor and members
4 of the general assembly in child health public policy efforts
5 such as providing medical assistance funding as necessary to
6 expand the department's initiative to provide for adequate
7 developmental surveillance and screening during a child's first
8 five years to be available statewide and enabling child care
9 resource and referral service agencies to facilitate provision
10 of child mental health consultation for child care providers.

11 *g.* The center shall submit a report of its activities and
12 policy recommendations to the general assembly by December 15
13 annually.

14 EXPLANATION

15 This bill requires the department of public health to
16 create a center for child health excellence and innovation.
17 The purpose of the center is to provide a policy forum for
18 efforts to improve child health, including but not limited to
19 improving health quality, demonstrating better health outcomes,
20 and reducing long-term health care costs. The creation and
21 operation of the center is subject to provision of funding by
22 the general assembly.

23 The center is required to engage other departments of state
24 government and child health providers and to perform various
25 duties to further the purpose of the center.