

**Senate File 131 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 131

BY PETERSEN, BISIGNANO, BLAKE,  
WINCKLER, STAED, DOTZLER,  
CELSI, DONAHUE, TOWNSEND,  
WAHLS, BENNETT, and WEINER

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to evidence-based maternal and infant home  
2 visiting services.

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

unofficial

1 Section 1. EVIDENCE-BASED MATERNAL AND INFANT HOME VISITING  
2 SERVICES.

3 1. The department of health and human services shall  
4 engage in a cross-agency collaboration with the department  
5 of education to identify and leverage funding sources and  
6 opportunities, including Medicaid, to expand evidence-based home  
7 visiting services for women and infants that promote healthy  
8 pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and healthy infant growth  
9 and development. The departments shall involve key stakeholders  
10 in designing an evidence-based home visiting services approach  
11 for the state that maximizes the coordination and integration of  
12 programs and funding streams, reduces duplication of efforts, and  
13 ensures that the services provided meet federal evidence-based  
14 criteria. The approach shall ensure that evidence-based home  
15 visiting services shall be available to women prenatally,  
16 throughout the pregnancy, and postpartum, and shall include  
17 mental and physical health, social, educational, and other  
18 services and interventions based upon the risk factors and needs  
19 identified. The departments may conduct a feasibility study  
20 to consider the various options available to increase Medicaid  
21 coverage and funding of evidence-based home visiting services,  
22 either through a state plan amendment or waiver. The department  
23 of health and human services shall seek federal approval of any  
24 Medicaid state plan amendment or waiver necessary to administer  
25 this section.

26 2. The department of health and human services shall submit a  
27 report to the general assembly by July 1, 2026, that identifies  
28 the number of individuals who received evidence-based home  
29 visiting services as a result of the funding sources and  
30 opportunities identified and leveraged pursuant to subsection 1.

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This bill requires the department of health and human services  
35 to engage in a cross-agency collaboration with the department

1 of education to identify and leverage funding sources and  
2 opportunities, including Medicaid, to expand evidence-based home  
3 visiting services for women and infants that promote healthy  
4 pregnancies, positive birth outcomes, and healthy infant growth  
5 and development. The departments shall involve key stakeholders  
6 in designing evidence-based home visiting services for women  
7 prenatally, throughout the pregnancy, and postpartum, and shall  
8 include mental and physical health, social, educational, and  
9 other services and interventions. The departments may conduct  
10 a feasibility study to consider options to increase Medicaid  
11 coverage and funding of evidence-based home visiting services,  
12 either through a state plan amendment or waiver. The department  
13 of health and human services shall seek federal approval of any  
14 Medicaid state plan amendment or waiver necessary to administer  
15 the bill.

16 The department of health and human services shall submit a  
17 report to the general assembly by July 1, 2026, with the number  
18 of individuals who received evidence-based home visiting services  
19 as a result of the funding sources and opportunities identified  
20 and leveraged.