

MAR 9 2005
HUMAN RESOURCES

HOUSE FILE 675
BY TYMESON, UPMEYER, CHAMBERS,
and HEATON

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to early childhood programs available through the
2 community empowerment initiative.

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

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HF 675

1 Section 1. Section 28.4, Code 2005, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. With the assistance of the state
4 departments represented on the Iowa empowerment board and the
5 community empowerment office, develop and implement
6 requirements for community empowerment areas and the
7 administrators of the programs listed in section 28.10 to
8 annually report to the public regarding the results produced
9 by the community empowerment initiative and by the programs.
10 Supporting information shall also be required to be made
11 available with the report, including but not limited to the
12 methodology applied to identify the results, a copy of any
13 form utilized, background data used in developing the report,
14 and other information to assist a reader in assessing the
15 quality and accuracy of the data provided by the report.

16 NEW SUBSECTION. 14. With the assistance of the state
17 departments represented on the Iowa empowerment board and the
18 community empowerment office, develop and implement an
19 internet-based system providing a single point of contact for
20 use by a parent in accessing the community empowerment area
21 programs and state programs listed in section 28.10 that are
22 available in the parent's area. The system shall provide
23 capacity for a community empowerment area to implement an
24 internet site or internet page for that area in lieu of a
25 statewide site or page.

26 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 28.10 COLOCATION OF STATE EARLY
27 CHILDHOOD STAFF -- LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.

28 1. FINDINGS AND INTENT. The state of Iowa provides
29 funding, support, and technical assistance for programs
30 directed to children from birth to age five utilizing a number
31 of separate funding streams and state agencies. For early
32 childhood programs, the community empowerment initiative has
33 been instrumental in improving coordination and collaboration
34 between the funding streams and state agencies by empowering
35 Iowans to assume a leadership role at the community level.

1 The general assembly finds that collocating the administrative
2 staff associated with various state agency early childhood
3 programs will further enhance the degree of collaboration and
4 efficiency. It is the intent of the general assembly that at
5 an appropriate time, the programs and associated agency staff
6 listed in this section will be consolidated under the
7 authority of the Iowa empowerment board.

8 2. COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT OFFICE. The community
9 empowerment office of the department of management shall
10 establish an office site to colocate the programs and staff
11 listed in this section. The colocation effort shall be
12 completed by the close of the fiscal year that begins on July
13 1, 2005.

14 3. PROGRAMS AND AGENCIES IDENTIFIED. The following
15 programs and the departmental administrative staff associated
16 with the programs shall be relocated to the office site
17 established by the community empowerment office:

18 a. The following programs and associated staff under the
19 authority of the department of education:

20 (1) Center-based special education programs.

21 (2) The child portion of the child and adult care food
22 program.

23 (3) The early childhood network operated by the department
24 of education and area education agencies.

25 (4) The early childhood special education program.

26 (5) The early head start and head start programs.

27 (6) The even start family literacy program.

28 (7) Iowa shared visions preschool programs for children
29 ages three to five years, implemented under the auspices of
30 the child development coordinating council.

31 (8) Iowa shared visions parent support programs
32 implemented under the auspices of the child development
33 coordinating council.

34 (9) The school ready children grant program implemented
35 under the community empowerment initiative.

1 b. The following programs and associated staff under the
2 authority of the department of human services:

3 (1) Child abuse prevention grants.

4 (2) Early childhood programs grants implemented under the
5 community empowerment initiative.

6 (3) Child care programs implemented under chapter 237A.

7 (4) Community-based family resource programs.

8 (5) The promoting safe and stable families grant program.

9 c. The following programs and associated staff under the
10 authority of the Iowa department of public health:

11 (1) Child health programs.

12 (2) The childhood immunization program.

13 (3) The childhood lead poisoning prevention program
14 implemented pursuant to section 135.101.

15 (4) The community-based family resource and support grant
16 program funded through the federal administration for children
17 and families, United States department of health and human
18 services.

19 (5) The healthy child care Iowa program.

20 (6) The healthy opportunities for parents to experience
21 success-healthy families Iowa (HOPES-HFI) program implemented
22 under section 135.106.

23 Sec. 3. FEDERAL COORDINATION INITIATIVE. If the
24 opportunity is offered by the federal government, the Iowa
25 empowerment board and the state agencies represented on the
26 board shall apply for Iowa to participate in a head start
27 pilot program designed to promote coordination of state head
28 start, preschool, and child care programs into a comprehensive
29 early childhood system.

30 EXPLANATION

31 This bill relates to early childhood programs available
32 through the community empowerment initiative.

33 Code section 28.4, relating to the duties of the Iowa
34 empowerment board, is amended. The board is directed to
35 implement requirements for community empowerment areas and the

1 programs listed in the bill to annually report to the public
2 regarding the results produced by the community empowerment
3 initiative and by the programs. In addition, the board is
4 required to develop and implement an internet-based system
5 providing a single point of contact for use by a parent to
6 access the community empowerment area and state programs
7 available in the parent's area.

8 New Code section 28.10 directs the community empowerment
9 office in the department of management to establish office
10 space to physically colocate the programs listed in the bill
11 and the departmental administrative staff associated with
12 those programs. The process of colocation is required to be
13 completed by the close of fiscal year 2005-2006. The programs
14 are administered by the departments of education, human
15 services, and public health. The bill states legislative
16 intent to consolidate the programs under the authority of the
17 Iowa empowerment board at an appropriate time.

18 If the opportunity is offered by the federal government,
19 the Iowa empowerment board and the state agencies represented
20 on the board (departments of economic development, education,
21 human services, and public health) are directed to apply for
22 Iowa to participate in a head start pilot program designed to
23 promote coordination of state head start, preschool, and child
24 care programs into a comprehensive early childhood system.

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