

Senate File 2425

SENATE FILE

BY COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 3297)

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

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to and making appropriations for health and human
2 services and including other related provisions and
3 appropriations, providing penalties, making penalties
4 applicable and providing effective, retroactive, and
5 applicability date provisions.

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

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113 8 **Sec. 109. NEW SECTION. 135.155 EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA**
113 9 **COUNCIL.**

113 10 1. COUNCIL CREATED. An early childhood Iowa council is
113 11 created as an alliance of stakeholders in early care, health,
113 12 and education systems that affect children ages zero through
113 13 five in Iowa.

113 14 2. PURPOSE. The purpose of the early childhood Iowa
113 15 council is to oversee the development of an Iowa early
113 16 childhood system by integrating the early care, health, and
113 17 education systems addressing the needs of children ages zero
113 18 through five and their families. The council shall advise the
113 19 governor, general assembly, and public and private policy
113 20 bodies and service providers in coordinating activities
113 21 throughout the state to fulfill its purpose.

113 22 3. VISION STATEMENT. All system development activities
113 23 addressed by the early childhood Iowa council shall be aligned
113 24 around the following vision statement for the children of
113 25 Iowa: "Every child, beginning at birth, will be healthy and
113 26 successful."

113 27 4. MEMBERSHIP. The early childhood Iowa council
113 28 membership shall include a representative of any organization
113 29 that touches the lives of young children in the state ages
113 30 zero through five, has endorsed the purpose and vision
113 31 statement for the council, has endorsed the guiding principles
113 32 adopted by the council for the early childhood system, and has
113 33 formally asked to be a member and remains actively engaged in
113 34 council activities. The council shall work to ensure there is
113 35 geographic, cultural, and ethnic diversity among the
114 1 membership.

114 2 5. PROCEDURE. Except as otherwise provided by law, the
114 3 early childhood Iowa council shall determine its own rules of
114 4 procedure and operating provisions.

114 5 6. STEERING COMMITTEE. The early childhood Iowa council
114 6 shall operate with a steering committee to organize, manage,
114 7 and coordinate the activities of the council and its component
114 8 groups. The steering committee may act on behalf of the
114 9 council as necessary. The steering committee membership shall
114 10 consist of the co-chairpersons of the council's component
114 11 groups, the chairperson of the state agency liaison team, the
114 12 community empowerment facilitator or the facilitator's
114 13 designee, and other leaders designated by the council.

114 14 7. COMPONENT GROUPS. The early childhood Iowa council
114 15 shall maintain component groups to address the key components
114 16 of the Iowa early childhood system. Each component group
114 17 shall have one private and one public agency co-chairperson.
114 18 The council may change the component groups as deemed
114 19 necessary by the advisory council. Initially, there shall be
114 20 a component group for each of the following:

- 114 21 a. Governance planning and administration.
- 114 22 b. Professional development.
- 114 23 c. Public engagement.
- 114 24 d. Quality services and programs.
- 114 25 e. Resources and funding.
- 114 26 f. Results accountability.

114 27 8. STATE AGENCY LIAISON TEAM. A state agency liaison team
114 28 shall provide input into the efforts of the early childhood
114 29 Iowa council. In addition to designees of the governor, the
114 30 team shall consist of the directors or chief administrators,
114 31 or their designees, from the following state agencies and
114 32 programs:

- 114 33 a. Child health specialty clinics.
- 114 34 b. Office of community empowerment in the department of
114 35 management.
- 115 1 c. Department of education.
- 115 2 d. Division of libraries and information services of the
115 3 department of education.
- 115 4 e. Office of the governor.
- 115 5 f. Department of human rights.
- 115 6 g. Department of human services.
- 115 7 h. Postsecondary education institutions, including but not
115 8 limited to institutions of higher learning under the control
115 9 of the state board of regents and Iowa community colleges.
- 115 10 i. Department of public health.

115 11 9. DUTIES. In addition to the advisory function specified
115 12 in subsection 2, the early childhood Iowa council's duties
115 13 shall include but are not limited to all of the following
115 14 regarding the Iowa early childhood system:

- 115 15 a. Coordinate the development and implementation of a
115 16 strategic plan.
- 115 17 b. Assist in the development of responsibilities across
115 18 agencies and other entities to achieve strategic goals.
- 115 19 c. Work with the Iowa empowerment board in developing
115 20 public-private partnerships to support the early childhood
115 21 system through the first years first account in the Iowa
115 22 empowerment fund and other efforts for expanding investment of
115 23 private funding in the early childhood system. As this and
115 24 similar efforts to expand and coordinate investments from all
115 25 public and private sources evolve and mature, make
115 26 recommendations for designation of or contracting with a

115 27 private nonprofit organization to serve as a fiscal agent for
115 28 the early childhood system or another approach for increasing
115 29 public and private investment in the system.

115 30 d. Report annually by December 31 to the governor and
115 31 general assembly. The report content shall include but is not
115 32 limited to all of the following:

115 33 (1) The status and results of the council's efforts to
115 34 engage the public regarding the early care, health, and
115 35 education needs of children ages zero through five and the
116 1 efforts to develop and promote private sector involvement with
116 2 the early childhood system.

116 3 (2) The status of the community empowerment initiative and
116 4 the overall early childhood system in achieving the following
116 5 initial set of desired results identified in section 28.2:

116 6 (a) Healthy children.

116 7 (b) Children ready to succeed in school.

116 8 (c) Safe and supportive communities.

116 9 (d) Secure and nurturing families.

116 10 (e) Secure and nurturing early care and education
116 11 environments.

116 12 Sec. 110. NEW SECTION. 135.156 LEAD AGENCY AND OTHER
116 13 STATE AGENCIES.

116 14 1. The lead agency for support of the early childhood Iowa
116 15 council for state agency efforts to develop an early childhood
116 16 system for Iowa shall be the department of public health.

116 17 2. The department shall work with the early childhood Iowa
116 18 council in integrating early care, health, and education
116 19 systems to develop an early childhood system for Iowa. The
116 20 department shall do all of the following in developing the
116 21 system:

116 22 a. Work with state agencies to enter into memorandums of
116 23 understanding outlining the agencies' responsibilities in the
116 24 system.

116 25 b. Work with private businesses, foundations, and
116 26 nonprofit organizations in implementing a public-private
116 27 partnership to develop and provide funding for the system.

116 28 c. Maintain an internet site for distributing the
116 29 information provided through the council and its component
116 30 groups.