

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2086

Introduced by Assembly Member Ian Calderon

February 20, 2014

An act to amend Section 95001 of the Government Code, relating to early intervention services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2086, as introduced, Ian Calderon. Early intervention services.

Existing law, the California Early Intervention Services Act, in part, requires the State Department of Developmental Services, the State Department of Education, the State Department of Health Care Services, and the State Department of Social Services to coordinate services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families, and to collaborate with families and communities to provide a family-centered, comprehensive, multidisciplinary, interagency, community-based, early intervention system for infants and toddlers with disabilities.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 95001 of the Government Code is
2 amended to read:
3 95001. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of the
4 following:

1 (1) There is a need to provide appropriate early intervention
2 services individually designed for infants and toddlers from birth
3 to two years of age, inclusive, who have disabilities or are at risk
4 of having disabilities, to enhance their development and to
5 minimize the potential for developmental delays.

6 (2) Early intervention services for infants and toddlers with
7 disabilities or who are at risk of having disabilities represent an
8 investment of resources, in that these services ~~reduce~~ *minimize* the
9 ultimate costs to our society, by minimizing the need for special
10 education and related services in later school years and by
11 minimizing the likelihood of institutionalization. These services
12 also maximize the ability of families to better provide for the
13 special needs of their children. Early intervention services for
14 infants and toddlers with disabilities maximize the potential of the
15 individuals to be effective in the context of daily life and activities,
16 including the potential to live independently, and exercise the full
17 rights of citizenship. The earlier intervention is started, the greater
18 is the ultimate cost-effectiveness and the higher is the educational
19 attainment and quality of life achieved by children with disabilities.

20 (3) The family is the constant in the child's life, while the service
21 system and personnel within those systems fluctuate. Because the
22 primary responsibility of an infant's or toddler's well-being rests
23 with the family, services should support and enhance the family's
24 capability to meet the special developmental needs of their infant
25 or toddler with disabilities.

26 (4) Family-to-family support strengthens families' ability to
27 fully participate in services planning and their capacity to care for
28 their infants or toddlers with disabilities.

29 (5) Meeting the complex needs of infants with disabilities and
30 their families requires active state and local coordinated,
31 collaborative, and accessible service delivery systems that are
32 flexible, culturally competent, and responsive to family-identified
33 needs. When health, developmental, educational, and social
34 programs are coordinated, they are proven to be cost effective, not
35 only for systems, but for families as well.

36 (6) Family-professional collaboration contributes to changing
37 the ways that early intervention services are provided and to
38 enhancing their effectiveness.

1 (7) Infants and toddlers with disabilities are a part of their
2 communities, and as citizens make valuable contributions to society
3 as a whole.

4 (b) Therefore, it is the intent of the Legislature that:

5 (1) Funding provided under Part C of the federal Individuals
6 with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 1431 et seq.) be
7 used to improve and enhance early intervention services as defined
8 in this title by developing innovative ways of providing family
9 focused, coordinated services, which are built upon existing
10 systems.

11 (2) The State Department of Developmental Services, the State
12 Department of Education, the State Department of Health Care
13 Services, and the State Department of Social Services coordinate
14 services to infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families.
15 These agencies need to collaborate with families and communities
16 to provide a family-centered, comprehensive, multidisciplinary,
17 interagency, community-based, early intervention system for
18 infants and toddlers with disabilities.

19 (3) Families be well informed, supported, and respected as
20 capable and collaborative decisionmakers regarding services for
21 their child.

22 (4) Professionals be supported to enhance their training and
23 maintain a high level of expertise in their field, as well as
24 knowledge of what constitutes most effective early intervention
25 practices.

26 (5) Families and professionals join in collaborative partnerships
27 to develop early intervention services that meet the needs of infants
28 and toddlers with disabilities, and that those partnerships be the
29 basis for the development of services that meet the needs of the
30 culturally and linguistically diverse population of California.

31 (6) To the maximum extent possible, infants and toddlers with
32 disabilities and their families be provided services in the most
33 natural environment, and include the use of natural supports and
34 existing community resources.

35 (7) The services delivery system be responsive to the families
36 and children it serves within the context of cooperation and
37 coordination among the various agencies.

38 (8) Early intervention program quality be ensured and
39 maintained through established early intervention program and
40 personnel standards.

1 (9) The early intervention system be responsive to public input
2 and participation in the development of implementation policies
3 and procedures for early intervention services through the forum
4 of an interagency coordinating council established pursuant to
5 federal regulations under Part C of the federal Individuals with
6 Disabilities Education Act.

7 (c) It is not the intent of the Legislature to require the State
8 Department of Education to implement this title unless adequate
9 reimbursement, as specified and agreed to by the department, is
10 provided to the department from federal funds from Part C of the
11 federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.