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REQUEST: FISCAL YEAR

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Health & Social Services
 Title: Early intervention services for BRU: Community Development
certain young children & families Disabilities Grants
 Sponsor: Zharoff, Collins Components: Respite Care
 Requester: Senate HES

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims			650.0	800.0	950.0	1,200.0
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	650.0	800.0	950.0	1,200.0
CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

General Funds/MHT	0.0	0.0	650.0	800.0	950.0	1,200.0
Federal Funds						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	650.0	800.0	950.0	1,200.0

POSITIONS

Full-Time		0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time		0	0	0	0	0
Temporary		0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (attach a separate page if necessary)

See Attached

Prepared By: Margaret Lowe, Director
 Division: MENTAL HEALTH & DEVEL. DISABILITIES

Phone: 465-3370
 Date: 04/18/91

Approved By Commissioner: Theodore Mala, M.D., MPH
 Agency: HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor,
 Office of Management & Budget, Impacted Agency(ies)

Senate Bill 248

Fiscal Note

Respite care services offered by the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities are part of the interagency system of services in SB 248. However, a small percentage of families eligible for services under SB 248 do not meet the Division's developmental disabilities eligibility criteria. These funds would provide respite services for those families who qualify for services under SB 248, but do not meet the criteria for respite services in the Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

REQUEST: FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affect: Health & Social Services
 Title: Early intervention services for BRU: State Health Services
certain young children & families
 Sponsor: Zharoff, Collins Components: Maternal, Child & Family Health
 Requester: Senate HES

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
Personal Services			235.0	336.0	437.0	538.0
Travel			26.0	31.0	36.0	41.0
Contractual		100.0	250.0	400.0	550.0	700.0
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	100.0	511.0	767.0	1,023.0	1,279.0

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

General Funds/MHT	0.0	100.0	511.0	767.0	1,023.0	1,279.0
Federal Funds						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	100.0	511.0	767.0	1,023.0	1,279.0

POSITIONS

Full-Time		0	4	6	7	9
Part-Time		0	0	0	0	0
Temporary		0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (attach a separate page if necessary)

See Attached.

Prepared By: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH, Director
 Division: PUBLIC HEALTH

Phone: 465-3090
 Date: 04/18/91

Approved By Commissioner: Theodore Mala, M.D., MPH
 Agency: HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Date: _____

Distribution (by preparer):

Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor,
 Office of Management & Budget, Impacted Agency(ies)

Senate Bill 248

Fiscal Note

These funds include increases for a number of programs in the system needed to meet the needs of this population. For example, these programs include the infant learning program, public health nursing and maternal, child health services in the Handicapped Children's Program. Full implementation includes providing basic ILP services, evaluations, and all identified services needed by the child and family.

The total cost for full implementation will be less than the projected costs once private insurance, sliding fee scales and all medicaid reimbursements are taken into consideration.

Personal services costs include several public health nursing positions, and limited fiscal personnel to obtain full reimbursement from medicaid, private insurance and other billable sources, which will significantly defray costs.

Travel costs include the costs necessary to serve increased numbers of families in villages and remote areas as well as monitoring and technical assistance for local programs.

Contractual costs include purchasing medical and therapy services for children and families. The grants line includes funds for infant learning programs in unserved areas and to reduce wait lists.

REQUEST: FISCAL NOTE

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affect: Health & Social Services
 Title: Early intervention services for BRU: State Health Services
certain young children & families
 Sponsor: Zharoff, Collins Components: Infant Learning
 Requester: Senate HES

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants, Claims		3,000.0	4,250.0	5,500.0	6,750.0	8,000.0
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	3,000.0	4,250.0	5,500.0	6,750.0	8,000.0

CAPITAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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REVENUE	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

General Funds/MHT	0.0	3,000.0	4,250.0	5,500.0	6,750.0	8,000.0
Federal Funds						
Other						
TOTAL	0.0	3,000.0	4,250.0	5,500.0	6,750.0	8,000.0

POSITIONS

Full-Time		0	0	0	0	0
Part-Time		0	0	0	0	0
Temporary		0	0	0	0	0

ANALYSIS: (attach a separate page if necessary)

See Attached

Prepared By: Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH, Director
 Division: PUBLIC HEALTH
 Approved By Commissioner: Theodore Mala, M.D., MPH
 Agency: HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Phone: 465-3090
 Date: 04/18/91
 Date: 4/18/91

Distribution (by preparer):
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Senate Bill 248

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Personal services costs include several public health nursing positions, and limited fiscal personnel to obtain full reimbursement from medicaid, private insurance and other billable sources, which will significantly defray costs.

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Contractual costs include purchasing medical and therapy services for children and families. The grants line includes funds for infant learning programs in unserved areas and to reduce wait lists.



SENATOR FRED F. ZHAROFF

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

P. O. BOX 405, KODIAK, ALASKA 99115 (907) 486-5259

DURING SESSION:

P. O. BOX V, JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811 • (907) 485-3473 • 485-3474

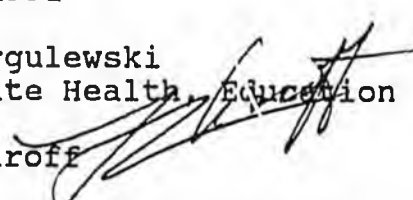
DISTRICT N

ALASKA PENINSULA • ALEUTIAN CHAIN • BRISTOL BAY • KODIAK ISLAND • LAKE CLARK/LAKE ILIAMNA • PRIBILOF ISLANDS • SHUMAGIN ISLANDS

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 18, 1991

TO: Arliss Sturgulewski
Chair, Senate Health, Education and Social Service

FROM: Fred F. Zharoff 

SUBJ: SB 248, Early Intervention Services for Special Needs Children

I would like to request that a hearing for SB 248, Early Intervention Services for Special Needs Children be scheduled in the Health, Education and Social Services Committee at your earliest possible convenience. My staff requested a fiscal note and position statement from the Department of Health and Social Services on April 15, 1991, and it should be available very soon.

Enclosed is a Sectional Analysis on SB 248. My staff will forward the fiscal note and position statement when they are received.

Sectional Analysis
Senate Bill 248
Early Intervention Services for Special Needs Children

Section 1: Findings. Approximately six percent of the children under the age of three in Alaska experience developmental delays or disabilities, and another 4 percent are at risk. Existing programs, for the most part, address the problems after they occur, rather than stressing prevention and early intervention. Early intervention has been proven effective in reducing or even eliminating long-term effects and costs to society of these disabling conditions. There is a need in the state for a coordinated program to provide these early intervention services to children under the age of three, and their families, who experience these problems. Provision of these services can help enable these children to remain in their home environment, minimize the potential need for institutionalization and reduce the long-term educational costs to the state by minimizing the need for special education and related services after children who experience developmental delays or disabilities reach school age.

Section 2: This section amends AS 47.20 as follows:

Sec. 47.20.060 states the purpose which is to provide quality learning and related early intervention family support services for children under the age of three who have developmental delays or disabilities. At the same time to make the best use of available federal, state, local, and private resources for the benefit of these children and their families by creating a comprehensive plan for the provision of these services.

Sec. 47.20.070 will establish the program through a cooperation of the Department of Health and Social Services and the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted. The Department will develop a state plan for providing services, establish educational programs to disseminate information about the nature and effects of developmental delays and disabilities, organize and encourage training of personnel and provide for transition of the children from the early intervention program to the formal education system.

Sec. 47.20.090 provides that the department will establish a system for locating children and their families who are eligible for the services. In addition the Department will ensure that a comprehensive evaluation is done of the child and the needs of the family with the goal of both providing assistance to the family unit and making the best use of the family as a resource.

Sec 47.20.100 establishes criteria for the development of individualized family service plans. These plans will include case management and evaluations of both the child and family situation. It will specify the services that will be utilized, the projected outcomes, and the predicted dates of implementation and completion.

Sec 47.20.110 indicates that the Department will adopt regulations necessary to implement this chapter, including due process and data compiling systems.

Sec 47.20.290 provides the definitions that will be used.

Section 3: Amends AS47.80.900 to provide a more comprehensive definition of "person with a handicap", to broaden the definition to include "exceptional children", persons with developmental disabilities, and those with various physical and emotional disabilities.

Section 4: repeals AS 47.20.005, .010, .020 and .050, the Exceptional Children Program. The Early Intervention Services for Special Needs Children program will make use of the existing infrastructure and reorganize to incorporate the definitions and recommendations that have come from the work of the Governor's Council for the Handicapped and Gifted.

Section 5: provides for an effective date of July 1, 1991.

Senate Bill No. 248

For An Act entitled: " An Act relating to early intervention services for certain young children and their families; and providing for an effective date ."

Summary

This bill amends AS 47.20, Exceptional Children and AS 47.80 Persons with Handicaps. Section 1, Findings, is added and includes the urgent and substantial need to: support the development of children under the age of three with disabilities; reduce the stress on families of children with disabilities; recognize the strengths, diversity and importance of parents and families in young children's lives; encourage parent-to-parent support; reduce the likelihood of institutionalization; and reduce the long term educational costs by minimizing the need for special education.

Section 2, Subsection 060, Purpose, is added and includes: family support; bringing together and making optimal use of federal, state, local and private resources; and expanding the availability of services. Subsection 070, Establishment of Program, is added and includes the establishment and coordination of a statewide system of interagency programs which will: provide appropriate services to the eligible population; educate the public; organize and encourage training programs for service providers; and facilitate transitions between programs in the interagency system. Subsection 080, Program Eligibility, is added and includes children under the age of three who experience a developmental delay or disability, and their families. If the needs of children with delays or disabilities are met, children who are at risk for disabilities or delays will be served with available funds. Subsection 090, Finding and Evaluating Eligible Participants, is added and includes: a comprehensive system for finding children and families in need of services and providing evaluations to determine the extent and nature of those needs. Subsection 100, Individual Family Service Plan, is added to include the development of individualized family service plans and for case management services to assist families in obtaining services from the interagency system. Subsection 110, Other Duties of the Department, is added to include the adoption of regulations regarding: personnel development; resolution of interagency and intra-agency disputes; provisions for due process with respect to the rights of children and parents; the compiling of data. Subsection 290, Definitions, is added and includes definitions for: department; developmentally delayed; disability; and early intervention services.

Section 3. AS 47.80.900 (6) Persons with Handicaps, is amended to remove the reference to AS 47.20.050, which is repealed.

AS 47.20.005, Purpose, is repealed and replaced by Section 2 subsection 060.

AS 47.20.020, Assistance authorized, is repealed and replaced by Section 2 subsection 070.

AS 47.20.020, Standards for assistance, is repealed.

AS 47.20.050, Definitions, is repealed and replaced by Section 2, subsection 290.

Discussion

The interagency system of early intervention services proposed in this bill includes services provided by both the public and private sector. In addition to the Section of Maternal, Child and Family Health's Infant Learning Programs, Public Health Nursing, Division of Family and Youth Services, Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Education, Division of Corporations, private physicians, hospitals and other private providers of services are among the individuals and agencies comprising the interagency system of services. The intent of providing early intervention services to families of young children who experience developmental delays or disabilities is to provide support to the family to help maintain the family unit in their community of choice, and to help maximize the child's potential to lead an independent productive life.

The infant learning programs provide services to families of children, ages birth to three, who experience disabilities or developmental delays. These services are provided in the families home and community. The infant learning program works with the family to develop services which will assist the family in meeting their child's development needs.

If there is no infant learning program available to work with the child and family, the burden on the family as well as other, already stressed, systems in Public Health Nursing, Division of Family and Youth Services and other agencies are increased. Without the backup of infant learning programs to work directly with children and their parents, many of whom have fetal alcohol or other drug related syndromes, the social service and other health systems must pick up the full burden of providing services with their existing staff and resources.

Although there are 24 Infant Learning Programs (ILPs) in Alaska, there are several regions that do not have access to any ILP services. Many existing programs are unable to serve all the communities located in their catchment area. Due to staff shortages in many regions of the state, children who have been referred to programs may be placed on long wait lists or may not receive services at all. There are currently 388 infants and toddlers who experience developmental delays or disabilities in the

state who are on wait lists or live in areas where no infant learning services are available.

The coordination required for the provision of services through the interagency system proposed in HB 191 will result in a more efficient utilization of the existing resources. The expansion of the early intervention system, including infant learning program services to all areas of the state, will provide families in villages with access to services and will help reduce the wait list for services in urban areas. The Department has responsibility for providing many of the services included in the interagency system. The expansion of infant learning programs statewide will help ensure that the system is coordinated with the private sector and that the services needed by young children with disabilities and their families are provided in a timely and cost effective manner.

Recommendation

The Department supports this bill which will provide equal access across the state to a system of services for one of our most vulnerable groups of children and families.

Recommended:

Peter M. Nakamura, MD, MPH
Director
Division of Public Health

Date:

4/18/91

Approved:

Theodore A. Mala, MD, MPH
Commissioner
Department of Health
and Social Services

Date:

4/18/91