S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

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Introduced by M. of A. PAULIN, GOTTFRIED, CAHILL, CLARK, COOK, GALEF, GUNTHER, JAFFEE, LIFTON, MARKEY, LAVINE, MAGNARELLI, DINOWITZ, BENEDETTO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to funding early intervention services

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section 2807-o to read as follows:

S 2807-O. EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES POOL. 1. DEFINITIONS. THE FOLLOWING WORDS OR PHRASES AS USED IN THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING MEANINGS:

(A) "EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES" SHALL MEAN SERVICES DELIVERED TO AN ELIGIBLE CHILD, PURSUANT TO AN INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN UNDER THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM.

(B) "EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM" SHALL MEAN THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM FOR TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES AS CREATED BY TITLE TWO-A OF ARTICLE TWENTY-FIVE OF THIS CHAPTER.

(C) "MUNICIPALITY" SHALL MEAN ANY COUNTY OUTSIDE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK OR THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

2. GRANTS FOR EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES. (A) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL, FROM FUNDS ALLOCATED FOR SUCH PURPOSE UNDER PARAGRAPH (G) OF SUBDIVISION SIX OF SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED SEVEN-S OF THIS ARTICLE, MAKE GRANTS TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR THE DELIVERY OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES. SUCH GRANTS SHALL BE DEEMED REIMBURSEMENT FROM THIRD PARTY PAYORS TO SUCH MUNICIPALITIES AND THE STATE OF NEW YORK FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM.

(B) GRANTS UNDER THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE AWARDED TO MUNICIPALITIES BY THE COMMISSIONER. EACH MUNICIPALITY AND THE STATE OF NEW YORK SHALL RECEIVE A SHARE OF SUCH GRANTS EQUAL TO ITS PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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TOTAL APPROVED STATEWIDE DOLLARS NOT REIMBURSABLE BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PAID TO PROVIDERS OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES BY THE STATE AND MUNICIPALITIES ON ACCOUNT OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES IN THE LAST COMPLETE STATE FISCAL YEAR FOR WHICH SUCH DATA IS AVAILABLE.

S 2. Subdivision 6 of section 2807-s of the public health law is amended by adding two new paragraphs (g) and (h) to read as follows:

(G) A FURTHER GROSS STATEWIDE AMOUNT FOR TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN SHALL BE ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS.

(H) THE AMOUNT SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (G) OF THIS SUBDIVISION SHALL BE ALLOCATED AMONG THE MUNICIPALITIES AND THE STATE OF NEW YORK BASED ON EACH MUNICIPALITY'S SHARE AND THE STATE'S SHARE OF EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM EXPENDITURES NOT REIMBURSABLE BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE LATEST TWELVE MONTH PERIOD FOR WHICH SUCH DATA IS AVAILABLE.

S 3. Subdivision 7 of section 2807-s of the public health law is amended by adding a new paragraph (d) to read as follows:

(D) FUNDS SHALL BE ADDED TO THE FUNDS COLLECTED BY THE COMMISSIONER FOR DISTRIBUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED SEVEN-O OF THIS ARTICLE, IN THE FOLLOWING AMOUNT: ONE HUNDRED FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN THROUGH DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN.

S 4. Subdivision 1 of section 2557 of the public health law, as amended by section 4 of part C of chapter 1 of the laws of 2002, is amended to read as follows:

1. The approved costs for an eligible child who receives an evaluation and early intervention services pursuant to this title shall be a charge upon the municipality wherein the eligible child resides or, where the services are covered by the medical assistance program, upon the social services district of fiscal responsibility with respect to those eligible children who are also eligible for medical assistance. All approved costs shall be paid in the first instance and at least quarterly by the appropriate governing body or officer of the municipality upon vouchers presented and audited in the same manner as the case of other claims against the municipality. Notwithstanding the insurance law or regulations thereunder relating to the permissible exclusion of payments for services under governmental programs, no such exclusion shall apply with respect to payments made pursuant to this title. Notwithstanding the insurance law or any other law or agreement to the contrary, benefits under this title shall be considered secondary to any [plan of insurance or] state government benefit program under which an eligible child may have coverage. [Nothing in this section shall increase or enhance coverages provided for within an insurance contract subject to the provisions of this title.]

S 5. Section 2557 of the public health law is amended by adding a new subdivision 4 to read as follows:

4. THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COLLECT DATA, BY MUNICIPALITY, ON THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS TITLE FOR PURPOSES OF IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY, COST EFFECTIVENESS, AND QUALITY OF SUCH PROGRAM. SUCH MUNICIPALITY DATA COLLECTION SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO:

(A) THE NUMBER AND AGES OF CHILDREN ENROLLED IN THE EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM;

(B) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN, WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY, RECEIVING A SINGLE SERVICE, THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE CHILDREN BY SERVICE TYPE, AND THE AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF VISITS PER WEEK FOR SUCH SERVICE TYPE;

(C) THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN, WITHIN A MUNICIPALITY, RECEIVING MULTIPLE SERVICES, THE PERCENTAGE OF THOSE CHILDREN BY SERVICE TYPE, THE

AVERAGE FREQUENCY OF VISITS PER WEEK FOR SUCH SERVICE TYPE AND THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF SERVICE TYPES THAT EACH CHILD RECEIVES;

(D) THE NUMBER OF NEW YORK STATE APPROVED AGENCIES, INSTITUTIONS, OR ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES BY SERVICE SPECIALTY OR SPECIALTIES AND THE NUMBER OF NEW YORK STATE APPROVED INDEPENDENT PROVIDERS OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES BY SERVICE SPECIALTY OR SPECIALTIES;

(E) THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN RECEIVING A SINGLE SERVICE BY TYPE OF NEW YORK STATE APPROVED SERVICE PROVIDER, AND THE NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN RECEIVING MULTIPLE SERVICES BY TYPE OF NEW YORK STATE APPROVED SERVICE PROVIDER;

(F) THE OVERALL NUMBER OF NEW YORK STATE APPROVED EVALUATORS. THE NUMBER OF APPROVED EVALUATORS WHO ALSO PROVIDE SERVICES TO EARLY INTERVENTION CHILDREN THEY HAVE EVALUATED;

(G) THE NUMBER OF FAMILIES RECEIVING FAMILY SUPPORTIVE SERVICES SUCH AS FAMILY TRAINING, COUNSELING, PARENT SUPPORT GROUPS, AND RESPITE;

(H) THE TYPES OF CLINICAL PRACTICE GUIDELINES, EVALUATION TOOLS AND TESTING INSTRUMENTS USED BY MUNICIPALITIES TO ESTABLISH ELIGIBILITY OR NEED FOR EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES;

(I) BOTH SERVICE, COST AND PAYMENT OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS USED BY COUNTIES TO ENSURE QUALITY AND EFFICIENT DELIVERY OF EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES;

(J) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN THAT ARE COVERED BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM;

(K) THE NUMBER OF CLAIMS SUBMITTED TO THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM BY MUNICIPALITY. THE PERCENTAGE OF CLAIMS DENIED BY THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. THE REASONS FOR THE DENIALS.

THE COMMISSIONER SHALL COLLECT AND ANALYZE SUCH DATA ELEMENTS TO DETERMINE SERVICE AND UTILIZATION PATTERNS AND TO ENHANCE THE DEPARTMENT'S ONGOING PROVISION OF PROGRAM OVERSIGHT AND GUIDANCE. IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD JULY FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN TO DECEMBER THIRTY-FIRST, TWO THOUSAND SIXTEEN, AND FOR EACH CALENDAR YEAR THEREAFTER, TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE LEGISLATURE, BY MARCH FIRST OF EACH YEAR, THE INFORMATION AND ANALYSIS REQUIRED BY THIS SUBDIVISION.

S 6. Subdivision 2 of section 2557 of the public health law, as amended by section 9-a of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as follows:

2. The department shall reimburse the approved costs paid by a municipality for the purposes of this title, other than those reimbursable by the medical assistance program [or by third party payors], in an amount of fifty percent of the amount expended in accordance with the rules and regulations of the commissioner; provided, however, that in the discretion of the department and with the approval of the director of the division of the budget, the department may reimburse municipalities in an amount greater than fifty percent of the amount expended. Such state reimbursement to the municipality shall not be paid prior to April first of the year in which the approved costs are paid by the municipality, provided, however that, subject to the approval of the director of the budget, the department may pay such state aid reimbursement to the municipality prior to such date.

S 7. The section heading of section 2559 of the public health law, as added by chapter 428 of the laws of 1992, is amended to read as follows:

[Third party insurance and medical] MEDICAL assistance program payments.

S 8. Subdivision 3 of section 2559 of the public health law, as added by chapter 428 of the laws of 1992, paragraphs (a), (c) and (d) as amended by section 11 of part A of chapter 56 of the laws of 2012 and paragraph (b) as further amended by section 104 of part A of chapter 62 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

3. (a) Providers of evaluations and early intervention services, hereinafter collectively referred to in this subdivision as "provider" or "providers", shall in the first instance and where applicable, seek payment from [all third party payors including governmental agencies] THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM prior to claiming payment from a given municipality for evaluations conducted under the program and for services rendered to eligible children, provided that, the obligation to seek payment shall not apply [to a payment from a third party payor who is not prohibited from applying such payment, and will apply such payment, to an annual or lifetime limit specified in the insured's policy] WHERE THE INSURED IS NOT ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PURSUANT TO THE SOCIAL SERVICES LAW.

(i) Parents shall provide the municipality and service coordinator information on any insurance policy, plan or contract under which an eligible child has coverage.

(ii) Parents shall provide the municipality and the service coordinator with a written referral from a primary care provider as documentation, for eligible children, of the medical necessity of early intervention services.

(iii) providers shall utilize the department's fiscal agent and data system for claiming payment for evaluations and services rendered under the early intervention program.

(b) [The commissioner, in consultation with the director of budget and the superintendent of financial services, shall promulgate regulations providing public reimbursement for deductibles and copayments which are imposed under an insurance policy or health benefit plan to the extent that such deductibles and copayments are applicable to early intervention services.

(c) Payments made for early intervention services under an insurance policy or health benefit plan, including payments made by the medical assistance program or other governmental third party payor, which are provided as part of an IFSP pursuant to section twenty-five hundred forty-five of this title shall not be applied by the insurer or plan administrator against any maximum lifetime or annual limits specified in the policy or health benefits plan, pursuant to section eleven of the chapter of the laws of nineteen hundred ninety-two which added this title.

(d)] A municipality, or its designee, and a provider shall be subrogated, to the extent of the expenditures by such municipality or for early intervention services furnished to persons eligible for benefits under this title, to any rights such person may have or be entitled to from [third party reimbursement] THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM. The provider shall submit notice to the insurer or plan administrator of his or her exercise of such right of subrogation upon the provider's assignment as the early intervention service provider for the child. The right of subrogation does not attach to benefits paid or provided [under any health insurance policy or health benefits plan] prior to receipt of written notice of the exercise of subrogation rights [by the insurer or plan administrator providing such benefits]. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY INCONSISTENT PROVISION OF THIS TITLE, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, NO THIRD

PARTY PAYOR OTHER THAN THE MEDICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SHALL BE REQUIRED TO REIMBURSE FOR EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES PROVIDED UNDER THIS TITLE.

S 9. This act shall take effect on the thirtieth day after it shall have become a law; provided, however the amendments to section 2807-s of the public health law made by sections two and three of this act shall not affect the expiration of such section and shall be deemed to expire therewith.