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Office

H.B. 939
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. A. White and Odioso

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SUMMARY

- Requires county boards of developmental disabilities to fund and provide early intervention services to all eligible individuals in the county.
- Requires county boards to submit an annual statement of expenses incurred in providing early intervention services to the Department of Children and Youth.
- Generally requires the Department of Children and Youth to reimburse each county board for at least half of the expenses incurred in providing early intervention services.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Early intervention

Early intervention encompasses a range of services available to infants and children under the age of three with developmental delays and disabilities. Each state is responsible for operating its own early intervention program.¹ The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) is the lead agency tasked with implementing Ohio's program.²

H.B. 939 requires county boards of developmental disabilities to fund and provide early intervention services to all eligible infants and children residing in the county. The services that must be provided are occupational therapy, physical therapy, special instruction, and speech-

¹ United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "[Early Intervention](#)"; Part C of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 United States Code 1431-1444 and 34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 303.

² R.C. 5180.30, not in the bill.

language pathology. Each county board is required to include details regarding the funding of early intervention services in its strategic plan and early intervention services policy.³

Continuing law permits county boards of developmental disabilities to provide service and support administration to children under the age of three who are eligible for early intervention services. This includes establishing eligibility, assessing needs for specific services, providing service coordination, and other administrative functions.⁴

DCY reimbursement

The bill requires each county board to submit to DCY a statement of expenses incurred by the board in providing early intervention services within 90 days of the end of each state fiscal year.⁵ DCY must adopt rules specifying documentation that must be submitted by each county board related to the funding of early intervention services.⁶

DCY must reimburse each county board for at least half of the costs the board incurs in funding early intervention services. However, reimbursable costs do not include any expenditures for services, activities, or functions that are funded, in whole or in part, through the service coordination grant administered by DCY or through funds provided under the federal Social Services Block Grant.⁷ DCY is responsible for adopting rules that establish procedures for the reimbursement of county boards.⁸

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-19-26

ANHB0939IN-136/ar

³ R.C. 5126.16.

⁴ R.C. 5126.15.

⁵ R.C. 5126.16(D).

⁶ R.C. 5180.32(H).

⁷ R.C. 5180.31.

⁸ R.C. 5180.32(I).