

H.F. 837

As introduced

Subject Early Childhood Development Screening

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Overview

This bill increases reimbursement rates on aid provided to school districts for development screening.

School districts are required to provide developmental screening for children before they start school, targeting children who are between three and five years old. A screening program must include:

- a developmental assessment;
- a hearing and vision screening or referral;
- an immunization review and referral;
- · child's height and weight; and
- an identification of risk factors that may influence learning and referral.

A screening may include optional components including:

- nutritional, physical, and dental assessments;
- review of family circumstances that affect development; and
- laboratory tests and health history.

All students must be screened prior to enrolling in a public school unless the child's parent provides a signed statement of conscientiously held beliefs against screening. A student may be screened by a school district, charter school, or by a public or private health care provider.

Under current law, a school district or charter school receives \$75 for each three-year-old screened, \$50 for each four-year-old screened, \$40 for each five- or six-year-old screened before enrolling in kindergarten, and \$30 for all other students screened within the first 30 days of kindergarten enrollment. This bill increases each reimbursement by 25 percent beginning in fiscal year 2020.

Summary

Section Description

1 Developmental screening aid.

Increases the reimbursement for each child screened by 25 percent beginning in fiscal year 2020, increasing the reimbursement levels to \$94 for each three-year-old screened, \$63 for each four-year-old screened, \$50 for each five- or six-year-old screened, and \$38 for all other students screened within the first 30 days of enrolling in kindergarten.

2 Appropriation.

Appropriates an unspecified amount of money to fund the developmental screening aid program.



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