

## **Quick Facts: HB 09-1237**

Concerning the coordinated system of payment for Early Intervention services for children eligible for benefits under Part C of the Federal "Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act".

### **Bill Sponsors - Representative Primavera and Senator Shaffer**

In Spring 2007, the General Assembly passed SB 07-004 which established methods for payment by private health insurance plans. HB 09-1237 responds to concerns from the implementation of SB 07-004 as follows:

- Clarifies that the mandatory coverage for early intervention services, includes contracts for health insurance and renewed plans.
- Provides that, should the General Assembly increase the base rate for state-funded early intervention services by more than the consumer price index, the annual amount of coverage provided by private health insurance plans would also increase by an equal amount.
- Clarifies that the coverage limit does not apply for rehabilitation or therapeutic services that are necessary after surgery.
- Directs that a child's private health insurance plan be fully expended to pay for early intervention services before accessing state or federal funds.
- Directs that insurance carriers shall not terminate coverage, refuse to deliver services, or fail to renew coverage as a result of a child accessing benefits for early intervention services.
- Streamlines administration by requiring all private health insurance plans to make payment to a state administered trust fund.
- Clarifies that providers shall accept payment from the trust fund as payment in full and shall not seek additional reimbursement from either the covered person or the insurance carrier.
- Sets deadlines for a private health insurance plan to make payment after notification that an eligible child needs services.
- Extends the time allowed for submission and payment of outstanding bills from 60 days to 90 days after a child is no longer eligible for services.
- Extends the time allowed for submission and payment of outstanding bills to April 1 each year after the end of the calendar year.
- Adds two legislative declarations:
  - The involvement of a child's primary health care provider and other health care providers is an essential component of effective planning for the provision of early intervention services; and
  - The provision of early intervention services is intended only to meet the developmental needs of an infant or toddler and not to replace other needed medical services that are recommended by the child's primary health care provider.
- Adds 1 FTE for CDHS accounting to administer the trust fund.