

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB1068

Chairperson: Senator Greg Adams

Committee: Education

Date of Hearing: February 21, 2012

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 1068 would create the Medicaid in the Public Schools Task Force. The Task Force would examine the efficiency and effectiveness of the current systems for seeking federal medicaid reimbursements for administrative claims and physical, occupational, and speech therapies. The Task Force would also examine the feasibility of expanding the special education services for which federal medicaid reimbursements are sought. Recommendations would be reported to the Education Committee, the Clerk of the Legislature, and the Governor on or before December 31, 2012. The Task Force would also terminate on that date.

Members of the Task Force would be appointed on or before May 1, 2012, would be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses, and would include:

1. The chairperson of the Education Committee and one other committee member, appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council;
2. The chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee and one other committee member, appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council;
3. The chairperson of the Appropriations Committee and one other committee member, appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council;
4. Two representatives of the State Department of Education who work with special education, including one who works specifically with special education funding, appointed by the Commissioner of Education;
5. Two representatives of the Department of Health and Human Services, including one who works specifically with medicaid reimbursements for special education services, appointed by the Governor;
6. One representative of a consortium of school districts that submits administrative claims for medicaid reimbursement and that has at least one member that is a Class IV or V school district, appointed by the Governor;
7. One representative of a consortium of school districts that submits administrative claims for medicaid reimbursement and that has at least one member that is a school district with fewer than 390 students, appointed by the Governor;
8. One school board member or school administrator representing a district with more than 900 students, appointed by the Governor;
9. One school board member or school administrator representing a district with 390 to 900 students, appointed by the Governor; and
10. One school board member or school administrator representing a district with less than 390 students, appointed by the Governor.

The chairperson of the Education Committee would be the chairperson and would call the meetings. The Education Committee, Health and Human Services Committee, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Legislative Fiscal Office would provide research and administrative support. For budgetary purposes only, the Task Force would be within the Legislative Council.

The measure contains an emergency clause.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Greg Adams