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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/25/2014	.	
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	.	
	.	

The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs (Diaz de la Portilla) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 65 - 120

and insert:

Section 2. Paragraphs (i) and (k) of subsection (3) of section 383.145, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

383.145 Newborn and infant hearing screening.—

(3) REQUIREMENTS FOR SCREENING OF NEWBORNS; INSURANCE COVERAGE; REFERRAL FOR ONGOING SERVICES.—

(i) ~~By October 1, 2000,~~ Newborn hearing screening must be



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11 conducted on all newborns in hospitals in this state on birth
12 admission. When a newborn is delivered in a facility other than
13 a hospital, the parents must be instructed on the importance of
14 having the hearing screening performed and must be given
15 information to assist them in having the screening performed
16 within 3 months after the child's birth.

17 (k) ~~A~~ Any child who is diagnosed as having a permanent
18 hearing impairment shall be referred to the primary care
19 physician for medical management, treatment, and followup
20 services. Furthermore, in accordance with Pub. L. No. 108-446
21 ~~105-17, Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities~~ ~~The Infants and~~
22 ~~Toddlers Program~~, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, a
23 ~~any~~ child from birth to 36 months of age who is diagnosed as
24 having a hearing impairment that requires ongoing special
25 hearing services shall ~~must~~ be referred to the Children's
26 Medical Services Early Intervention Program serving the
27 geographical area in which the child resides.

28 Section 3. Section 383.146, Florida Statutes, is created to
29 read:

30 383.146 Infants and toddlers who are deaf or hard of
31 hearing; notice of service providers.-

32 (1) At the time that an audiologist diagnoses an infant or
33 toddler as having a permanent hearing impairment, the
34 audiologist or his or her designee shall ask the child's parent
35 or legal guardian if he or she would like to authorize the
36 release of contact information in order to receive direct
37 correspondence from qualified Early Steps providers that offer
38 early intervention services and that specialize in serving
39 children with hearing loss. A parent or legal guardian that



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40 wishes to receive the direct correspondence shall authorize the
41 release of the contact information by signing a consent form.

42 (2) The Department of Health shall post on its website a
43 list of qualified Early Steps providers of early intervention
44 services which specialize in serving children with hearing loss
45 and which have notified the department of their interest to
46 provide direct communication to families who wish to receive
47 information about the services that they provide.

48 (3) The audiologist or his or her designee shall send by
49 secure transmission the consent form to those providers listed
50 on the department's website.

51
52 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

53 And the title is amended as follows:

54 Delete lines 8 - 20

55 and insert:

56 release; amending s. 383.145, F.S.; updating a cross-
57 reference; creating s. 383.146, F.S.; requiring an
58 audiologist to provide an opportunity for the parent
59 or legal guardian of an infant or toddler who is
60 diagnosed with a hearing impairment to provide contact
61 information so that he or she may receive information
62 directly from specified service providers; requiring
63 the Department of Health to post a list of certain
64 service providers on the department website; requiring
65 the audiologist or his or her designee to transmit a
66 consent form to the providers listed on the department
67 website; providing an effective date.