



Senate Fiscal Agency
P. O. Box 30036
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



BILL ANALYSIS

Telephone: (517) 373-5383
Fax: (517) 373-1986
TDD: (517) 373-0543

Senate Bill 1039 (Substitute S-3 as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Senator Nancy Cassis
Committee: Education

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Revised School Code to permit an intermediate school district (ISD) to develop and make available to school districts and public school academies (PSAs) an early intervening model program for kindergarten to third grade.

The early intervening model program would have to be designed to instruct classroom teachers and support staff on how to monitor individual pupil learning and how to provide specific support or learning strategies to pupils as early as possible in order to avoid inappropriate referrals to special education.

The model program would have to be based on a program with documented positive results and include literacy and numeracy supports, sensory motor skill development, behavior supports, instructional consultation for teachers, and the development of a parent/school learning plan. Specific support or learning strategies could include support in or out of the general classroom in areas including reading, writing, math, visual memory, motor skill development, behavior, or language development. These would be provided based on an understanding of the individual child's learning needs.

In addition, the model program would have to include a school-wide system of academic and behavioral support based on a support team available to the classroom teachers. The members of that team could include the principal, special education staff, reading teachers, school psychologists, speech and language services providers, school social workers, and other appropriate personnel who would be available to study the needs of the individual child systematically and work with the classroom teacher to match instruction to the child's needs.

An ISD that developed a model program under the bill would have to notify its constituent districts and the PSAs located in the ISD that the model program was available and that the ISD had funds available for developing it.

An ISD could use funds received under Section 81 of the State School Aid Act for the purposes of developing and making available an early intervening program.

Proposed MCL 380.641

Legislative Analyst: Curtis Walker

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have no fiscal impact on State or local government.

Date Completed: 2-27-08

Fiscal Analyst: Kathryn Summers-Coty