

REFERENCE TITLE: **infants; toddlers; developmental delays**

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-sixth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2024

HB 2137

Introduced by
Representative Willoughby

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTION 41-2022, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES; RELATING TO EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Section 41-2022, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to
3 read:

4 41-2022. Infants and toddlers with developmental delays; lead
5 agency; interagency agreements; initial
6 individualized service plans; service options

7 A. The department of economic security shall serve as the lead
8 agency for the coordination of a system of early intervention programs and
9 services to infants and toddlers with developmental delays.

10 B. The interagency coordinating council for infants and toddlers
11 shall advise and assist the department of economic security in developing
12 and implementing the statewide system and shall assist the department of
13 economic security in achieving the full participation, coordination and
14 cooperation of all appropriate public agencies in this state.

15 C. The department of economic security, the department of
16 education, the department of health services, the Arizona health care cost
17 containment system administration and the Arizona state ~~school~~ SCHOOLS for
18 the deaf and the blind shall enter into one or more intergovernmental
19 agreements to develop and implement a comprehensive, coordinated system of
20 early intervention programs and services for infants and toddlers with or
21 at risk of developmental delays and their families in accordance with
22 Public Law 99-457 (20 United States Code section 671). The interagency
23 coordinating council for infants and toddlers may assist in the
24 development of the interagency agreements.

25 D. THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED BY
26 THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL REQUIRE THAT THE INITIAL
27 INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE INTERVENTION
28 SERVICE OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO A FAMILY BASED ON THE ASSESSED NEEDS AND
29 OUTCOMES FOR THE INFANT OR TODDLER, INCLUDING SERVICE OPTIONS THAT MAY NOT
30 QUALIFY FOR EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES. THE FAMILY SHALL BE
31 INFORMED IF A SERVICE OPTION IS NOT COVERED BY EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS
32 AND SERVICES, IN WHOLE OR IN PART. IF THE CHILD'S OR TODDLER'S ASSESSMENT
33 INCLUDES THERAPY SERVICES, THE INITIAL INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY SERVICE PLAN
34 SHALL IDENTIFY ALL THERAPY SERVICES THAT THE INFANT OR TODDLER HAS BEEN
35 ASSESSED FOR, INCLUDING OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY, PHYSICAL THERAPY AND
36 SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY.

37 E. ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED AT THE INITIAL INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY
38 SERVICE PLAN MEETING FOR AN INFANT OR TODDLER IDENTIFIED WITH ANY LEVEL OF
39 HEARING IMPAIRMENT SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

40 1. INFORMATION FOR TECHNOLOGY SERVICES, INCLUDING HEARING AIDS,
41 COCHLEAR OR BRAINSTEM IMPLANTS, BONE-ANCHORED HEARING AIDS AND OTHER
42 ASSISTIVE DEVICES.

43 2. INFORMATION FOR OPTIONS FOR LANGUAGE ACQUISITION RESOURCES,
44 INCLUDING AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE, MANUALLY CODED ENGLISH, CUED SPEECH,
45 SPEECH READING AND LISTENING AND SPOKEN LANGUAGE.

1 F. AGENCIES THAT PROVIDE SERVICES AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SYSTEM OF
2 EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES SHALL USE PUBLIC AWARENESS
3 MATERIALS THAT INCLUDE RESOURCES AND INFORMATION ON INTERVENTION SERVICE
4 OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO A FAMILY BASED ON THE ASSESSED NEEDS AND OUTCOMES FOR
5 THE INFANT OR TODDLER, INCLUDING SERVICE OPTIONS THAT MAY NOT QUALIFY FOR
6 EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

7 G. THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENTS DEVELOPED AND IMPLEMENTED BY
8 THE DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL HAVE A PROCESS TO ALLOW
9 PARENTS TO CHOOSE A NATURAL ENVIRONMENT FOR SERVICES IN WHICH INFANTS AND
10 TODDLERS WITH DISABILITIES PARTICIPATE.

11 H. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CREATE A PROCESS BY WHICH A FAMILY THAT HAS
12 BEEN REFERRED TO EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES CAN REQUEST A
13 DIFFERENT SERVICE COORDINATOR, WHETHER THE COORDINATOR IS A CONTRACTOR OR
14 A STATE EMPLOYEE.