

## 1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The General Assembly supports a single system of  
3 early intervention services; and

4 WHEREAS, The General Assembly further supports the  
5 sentiments set forth under the Federal Individuals with  
6 Disabilities Education Act Part C, which established federal  
7 financial assistance for states to develop and implement a  
8 statewide, comprehensive, coordinated, multidisciplinary,  
9 interagency system that provides early intervention services  
10 to enhance the development of infants and toddlers with  
11 disabilities and to minimize their potential for a  
12 developmental delay; and

13 WHEREAS, Child development research has established that  
14 the rate of human learning and development is most rapid in  
15 the preschool years; and

16 WHEREAS, Research has also shown that early intervention  
17 results in a child requiring fewer special education and  
18 other habilitative services later in life, and also reduces  
19 the possibility of the child being held back in school; and

20 WHEREAS, In addition to enhancing the personal growth,  
21 health, and opportunity of a child, Early Intervention  
22 provides a long-term cost-savings of \$5 to \$7 in special  
23 education costs for every \$1 spent on early intervention  
24 services per child; and

25 WHEREAS, The benefits of these services have recently  
26 been jeopardized in Illinois by unanticipated growth in  
27 enrollment, which has subsequently produced a shortfall in  
28 funds for the program; and

29 WHEREAS, The legislature recognizes that in order to  
30 maintain early intervention services for all eligible infants  
31 and toddlers, and thus, continue to reap the full long-term

1 benefits these services provide, both for the child and the  
2 State, the Department of Human Services must have a dedicated  
3 source of support from members of the General Assembly;  
4 therefore be it

5 RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE  
7 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that the General Assembly shall  
8 convene and administer a legislative Advisory Committee for  
9 the Early Intervention Program; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, The Early Intervention Legislative Advisory  
11 Committee shall be responsible for providing support and  
12 guidance to the managing body of the Early Intervention  
13 program within the Department of Human Services and shall be  
14 further responsible for the following:

15 (1) Serving as the body to which the Department of  
16 Human Services reports on the progress of implementing  
17 cost-containment strategies and the status of the  
18 program;

19 (2) Monitoring the ongoing implementation of  
20 recommended cost-containment strategies;

21 (3) Assessing any persistent programmatic  
22 weaknesses and assisting the Department in addressing  
23 those weaknesses;

24 (4) Monitoring the Department's efforts in  
25 utilizing all resources necessary to bring the Early  
26 Intervention Program back under fiscal control without  
27 jeopardizing services to all eligible infants and  
28 toddlers; and

29 (5) Maintaining ongoing communication with the  
30 Bureau of the Budget and the Office of the Governor  
31 regarding the status of the program; and be it further

32 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall consist of a bicameral  
33 and bipartisan membership totaling 8 members, with two

1 legislative members appointed by each Majority and Minority  
2 Leader in the House and Senate, and shall also consist of a  
3 representative from each of the following: the Department of  
4 Human Services, the Department of Insurance, the Department  
5 of Public Aid, and the University of Illinois at Chicago  
6 Division of Specialized Care for Children; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, The Department of Human Services shall be  
8 responsible for reporting to the Early Intervention  
9 Legislative Advisory Committee at least once a month  
10 regarding the following information:

11 (1) Number of children enrolled in Early  
12 Intervention;

13 (2) Number of children covered by Medicaid/Kidcare  
14 and the number of children who may be eligible for  
15 Medicaid/Kidcare;

16 (3) Number of children covered by private  
17 insurance;

18 (4) Breakdown of enrollment by diagnosis (including  
19 the number of children with a specific developmental  
20 disability diagnosis);

21 (5) CFC/provider capacity, caseload, and any  
22 caseload backlog;

23 (6) Status of billing for private insurance,  
24 including insurance billing training procedures;

25 (7) CFC funding breakdown;

26 (8) Status of the data management system and its  
27 capacity to detect variances in the system (such as the  
28 number of services received and number of hours billed  
29 for services);

30 (9) Status of the IFSP process under the service  
31 guidelines, including any concerns that may have been  
32 voiced regarding the process and how the Department is  
33 addressing those concerns;

34 (10) Status of the IMDN quality assurance review

1 process, including any concerns that may have been voiced  
2 by either parents or providers and how they Department  
3 may be addressing those concerns;

4 (11) Status of the development of a long-term  
5 strategic plan for the Early Intervention Program with  
6 programmatic and outcomes-based goals; and

7 (12) Any additional information requested by  
8 members of the Legislative Advisory Committee; and be it  
9 further

10 RESOLVED, The Department of Human Services shall be  
11 responsible for submitting an official interim report in  
12 November 2001 and a final report in June 2002 to the Early  
13 Intervention Legislative Advisory Committee, which must  
14 include, but not be limited to, the following:

15 (1) Data analysis based on data provided in the  
16 monthly update reports;

17 (2) Enrollment and cost projections for FY03 (with  
18 rough estimates included in the November report and final  
19 estimates to be included in the June report);

20 (3) Comparisons of regional information/performance  
21 (downstate vs. Chicago-area);

22 (4) Analysis and achievement status of goals, as  
23 outlined under the Department's Early Intervention  
24 long-term strategic plan;

25 (5) Identification of any programmatic weaknesses,  
26 including strategies the Department is considering to  
27 address these weaknesses; and

28 (6) Any additional information requested by members  
29 of the Legislative Advisory Committee; and be it further

30 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this Resolution shall  
31 be provided to the Secretary of Human Services and the  
32 Associate Secretary in charge of the Early Intervention  
33 Program.