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**Early Learning & Children's  
Services Committee**

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**HB 2230**

**Brief Description:** Regarding early intervention services for children three years old.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Ericks, Bailey, Schual-Berke, Williams, Kagi, Moeller, Lantz, Hasegawa, Green, Morrell, Linville, Blake, Upthegrove, Hunt, O'Brien, Roach, Goodman, Simpson, Ormsby and Santos.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Declares that children eligible and enrolled in a birth-to-three special education program shall remain eligible for services until enrolled in a three-to-21 special education program.

**Hearing Date:** 2/23/07

**Staff:** Sydney Forrester (786-7120).

**Background:**

Early intervention services to Washington's children with disabilities who are between the ages of birth and three years are available through the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and through some school districts in the state. The DSHS early intervention services are administered under the Infant and Toddler Early Intervention Program (ITEIP). School district early intervention programs are typically provided as part of a continuum of special education services to children with disabilities. School districts may work in partnership with the ITEIP and provide services directly or through contracts with local birth-to-three agencies and providers.

Beginning September 1, 2009, each school district must provide or contract for early intervention services to all eligible children with disabilities from birth to three years of age.

School districts currently are required to provide special education services to eligible children with disabilities between the ages of three and 21 years. Approximately three-quarters of children who receive birth-to-three special education services also qualify for three-to-21 services when

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they enter the K-12 system. Special education statutes require a transition plan to be in place for these children by their third birthday in order to facilitate exit from the birth-to-three program and entry into the three-to-21 program. Due to limited school districts services or programming during the summer months, some children with birthdays during the late spring and summer months may experience a gap in receiving these special education services as they exit the ITEIP program upon reaching age three.

**Summary of Bill:**

Children who are receiving birth-to-three special education services will remain eligible for those services until they are enrolled in a school district special education program.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 22, 2007.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.