

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## HB 2598

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As of February 24, 2014

**Title:** An act relating to clarifying the lead agency for the early support for infant and toddlers program.

**Brief Description:** Clarifying the lead agency for the early support for infant and toddlers program.

**Sponsors:** Representative Kagi; by request of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

**Brief History:** Passed House: 2/17/14, 95-2.

**Committee Activity:** Early Learning & K-12 Education: 2/26/14.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON EARLY LEARNING & K-12 EDUCATION

**Staff:** Katherine Taylor (786-7434)

**Background:** In accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, children from birth to three years of age who have been diagnosed with a disability or developmental delays and their families are entitled to intervention services. The program in Washington that provides these services is called the Early Support for Infants and Toddlers (ESIT). The stated goal of ESIT is to enable young children to be active and successful participants during the early childhood years and in the future.

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) contracts with 34 local lead agencies to deliver a range of services such as specialized instruction, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and physical therapy. The provision of early intervention services utilizes cross-systems and agency collaborations between educational school districts, health departments, health and human services agencies, nonprofits, and county health departments.

**Summary of Bill:** The lead agency for ESIT is identified as DEL.

School districts must provide or contract, or both, for early intervention services in partnership with local birth-to-three lead agencies and birth-to-three providers.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

**Effective Date:** Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.