



ACTION ALERT - Contact House Members Regarding EarlySteps Family Cost Participation

Voice Your Opinion on EarlySteps Family Cost Participation

Members of the House will be hearing [HB 375](#) later this week. This bill will authorize the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to implement Family Cost Participation in EarlySteps using a sliding fee scale. (Click [here](#) for the sliding scale that is being proposed by DHH.)

If you are opposed to the implementation of Family Cost Participation, contact your Representative by [Thursday, April 18th!](#)

Contact Your Representative

Click [here](#) to find out who your Representative is.

Click [here](#) for full contact information for members of the House.

To talk directly to a Representative, contact the House switchboard at 225-342-6945

Help Writing Your Email

Begin by sharing your current situation: For example, "My child is currently receiving EarlySteps services" or "My child benefited from EarlySteps services." You can also include how receiving these services has been beneficial to your child and how the implementation of family cost participation would affect your child/family.

End by telling your legislator how he/she can help: "HB 375 includes Family Cost Participation for EarlySteps. Please do not implement Family Cost Participation."

Confirm Your Action

Don't forget to let us know you took action!

[Reply](#) to this email or notify your Regional LaCAN Leader to confirm your action.

Why confirm your action?

This info helps us to know how effective we are in reaching you with this information and engaging members across our state in advocacy for systems change.

Background Information

In an effort to save the EarlySteps Program from elimination during last year's legislative session, DHH issued stricter eligibility requirements for the program, cutting about half of its participants. This year DHH has proposed family cost participation to reduce the amount of state general funds needed to keep the program in operation.

[HB 375](#) passed out of the House Health and Welfare Committee on last Thursday without objection. The bill must now go before the entire House for a vote. Members of the House need to hear from you about how family cost participation in EarlySteps will affect children with developmental delays and their families.

Click [here](#) for more information about the EarlySteps Program.

Released April 15, 2013

Any Questions?

If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact LaCAN by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below.

Contact LaCAN

Email: laCANadvocates44@yahoo.com

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

Web: <http://www.lacanadvocates.org>



Louisiana Citizens for Action Now is an initiative of the [Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council](#).