



**ACTION ALERT - Contact the House Health & Welfare Committee
Regarding EarlySteps Family Cost Participation**

Voice Your Opinion on EarlySteps Family Cost Participation

The House Health and Welfare Committee will be hearing [HB 375](#) on **Thursday, April 11th**. This bill will, among other things, authorize the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) to implement Family Cost Participation in Early Steps using a sliding fee scale. (Click [here](#) for the sliding scale that is being proposed by DHH.) This scale is not included in the bill but is currently out for public comment.

If you are opposed to the implementation of Family Cost Participation, contact the Chairman and members of the Health and Welfare Committee from your region TODAY!

Contact the House Health & Welfare Committee

See the list of committee members in your region below. If you don't know your region, click [here](#) to find out.

ALL Regions

Scott Simon - Chairman simons@legis.la.gov (985) 893-6246

Region 1

Chairman Only

Region 2

Regina Barrow larep029@legis.la.gov (225) 359-9400
Kenneth Havard havardk@legis.la.gov (225) 634-7470

Region 3

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Region 4

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Lance Harris harrisl@legis.la.gov (318) 767-6095

Region 7

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Kenny Cox coxk@legis.la.gov (855) 844-8583
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Katrina Jackson	jacksonk@legis.la.gov	(318) 362-5123
John Morris	morrisjc@legis.la.gov	(318) 362-4270

Region 9

Rogers Pope	poper@legis.la.gov	(225) 667-3588
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Region 10

Julie Stokes	stokesj@legis.la.gov	(504) 456-3173
Thomas Willmott	willmott@legis.la.gov	(504) 465-3479

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."

This action must be taken TODAY.

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.

Background Information

EarlySteps provides services to families with infants and toddlers (birth to 3 years) who have developmental delays or a medical condition likely to result in a developmental delay. These services are designed to improve the family's capacity to enhance their child's development and are provided in the child's natural environment.

In an effort to save the 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.

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

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: laicanadvocates44@yahoo.com

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

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

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