

HB 1063 -- CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

SPONSOR: Grisamore

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Children, Families, and Persons with Disabilities by a vote of 11 to 1.

This bill establishes the Show-Me Healthy Babies Program within the Department of Social Services as a separate children's health insurance program for any low-income unborn child who meets specified eligibility requirements. Within 60 days after the effective date of these provisions, the department must submit a state plan amendment or seek any necessary waivers from the federal Department of Health and Human Services requesting approval for the program. At least annually, the department must prepare and submit a report to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and President Pro Tem of the Senate analyzing and projecting the cost savings and benefits of the program, if any, to specified entities and persons.

The bill adds a neighborhood youth development program that is affiliated and in good standing with a nationally federated organization's purposes, procedures, voluntary standards, and mandatory requirements that provides research-based curricula, delivered by trained professionals in a positive all-female environment to the list of neighborhood youth development programs that are exempt from state child care licensing requirements.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill would help children access health care.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Grisamore; Missouri Right to Life; Missouri Catholic Conference; March of Dimes; and Campaign Life Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.