

# **EARLY HEARING DETECTION AND INTERVENTION**

## **EHDI Re-Authorization**

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# EHDI Act

- Early hearing detection and intervention grants were first authorized in the Newborn Infant Hearing Screening and Intervention Act of 1999, which was incorporated into the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2000, and signed into law.
- That law provided federal funds for state grants to develop infant hearing screening and intervention programs.

# EHDI Reauthorization

- The following year, Congress reauthorized these grants through the Children's Health Act of 2000.
- The Act included provisions related to early hearing screening and evaluation of all newborns, coordinated intervention, rehabilitation services, and research.
- In 2010, Congress passed EHDI of 2010, which authorized these programs through 2015.

# EHDI Reauthorization

- September 2015 EHDI legislation was introduced and passed the House on the suspension calendar.
- It was introduced in the Senate in December 2015, but was unable to come up for a vote before the end of the legislative session.
- EHDI Act of 2017 was introduced in March of 2017. The legislation would authorize federal funding of EHDI programs through 2022 and includes children up to age 3.
- It passed the Senate in September and the House in October.
- This Act becomes law once it is signed by the President.



QUESTIONS?