

**§8943. Central registry**

The department shall establish and maintain a central registry for cases of birth defects to accomplish the purposes of this chapter and facilitate research on birth defects. The submission of information to and distribution of information from the central registry are subject to the requirements of this chapter and other provisions of law. Information that directly or indirectly identifies individual persons contained within the registry is confidential and must be distributed from the registry in accordance with rules adopted by the department. The department shall adopt rules according to which it will in a timely fashion refer to the Child Development Services System children with confirmed birth defects who may be eligible for early intervention. The department and the Department of Education shall execute an interagency agreement to facilitate the referrals under this section. In accordance with the interagency agreement, the Department of Education shall offer a single point of contact for the Department of Health and Human Services to use in making referrals. Also in accordance with the interagency agreement, the Child Development Services System may make direct contact with the families who are referred. The referrals may take place electronically. For purposes of quality assurance and improvement, the Child Development Services System shall supply to the department aggregate data at least annually on the number of children referred under this section who were found eligible for early intervention services and on the number of children found not eligible for early intervention services. In addition, the department shall supply data at least annually to the Child Development Services System on how many children had data entered into the registry. For a child whose parent or legal guardian objects on the basis of sincerely held religious belief, the department may not require the reporting of information about that child to the central registry or enter into the central registry information regarding birth defects of that child. [PL 2007, c. 450, Pt. A, §9 (AMD).]

**SECTION HISTORY**

PL 1999, c. 344, §1 (NEW). PL 2007, c. 450, Pt. A, §9 (AMD).

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