

News...

from the Illinois House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

September 24, 2015

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit 630-585-1308

Kifowit Stands With Families In Support of Early Intervention

AURORA, Ill. – State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit, D-Oswego, rallied with hundreds of parents today in the state Capitol before voting to reverse proposed funding cuts to Early Intervention.

“As a mother, it pains me to see the fear and worry in the eyes of so many fellow parents who don’t know whether the programs their children rely on will continue being available,” Kifowit said. “These programs are necessary and help provide disabled children the best shot at a happy life.”

Kifowit supported legislation Thursday to restore \$20 million in funding cuts prosed by Governor Rauner to Early Intervention programs. Nearly 20,000 children receive these services ranging from developmental evaluations and assessments, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, and developmental therapy.

A recent study by the RAND Corporation shows a societal benefit to funding Early Intervention programs. Early childhood interventions have been found to generate a return to society ranging from \$1.80 to \$17.07 for each dollar spent on the program. These programs have also helped children achieve academic success and improve behavior.

“Early intervention programs give kids with special needs or learning delays the help they need to make gains in their early years that will benefit them throughout their lives,” Kifowit said. “I will continue fighting to protect Early Intervention programs and to support the families in my district who dearly need these services.”

See attached photo

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State Rep. Stephanie Kifowit meets with supporters of Early Intervention (EI) at the Capitol in Springfield today. Kifowit supported legislation Thursday to restore nearly \$20 million in EI funding.

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