



HB 272 PILOT PROGRAM FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS SERVICES

SOCIAL SERVICES APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF: RUSSELL FRANSEN

ISSUE BRIEF

SUMMARY

This issue brief provides an update to the Legislature on the implementation of HB 272 *Pilot Program for Autism Spectrum Disorders Services* (Menlove) passed in the 2012 General Session (<http://le.utah.gov/~2012/bills/hbillenr/HB0272.pdf>). The funding provided should serve a total of about 320 children with autism through June 2014. The Analyst recommends that the subcommittee provide the Department \$500,000 in spending authority from the GFR - Autism Treatment Account in FY 2014 so the Department can spend the donations that the fund has received.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

- The Analyst recommends that the subcommittee provide the Department \$500,000 in spending authority from the GFR - Autism Treatment Account in FY 2014 so the Department can spend the donations that the fund has received.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

HB 272 *Pilot Program for Autism Spectrum Disorders Services* creates a pilot program for autism spectrum disorders services with the following state funding sources:

1. \$4,500,000 one-time for two-year Medicaid pilot with \$37,400 spent through December 2012.
 - a. About 250 children ages 2 to 5, who have been diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, should be served through June 2014
 - b. Services include in-home services using proven treatment methods
 - c. Services require at least one family member to be present and working with the provider 40% of the time that services are being delivered.
2. \$1,000,000 one-time to the Autism Treatment Restricted Account with \$131,600 spent through mid-January
 - a. About 22 children ages 2 to 5, who have been diagnosed with autism, should be served through June 2014
 - b. Services include in-home and in-office services using applied behavior analysis and other proven effective treatment methods
 - c. Services require parental participation of about 3 to 5 hours weekly.
 - d. Through November 2012, the Autism Treatment Restricted Account has received additional funding from private sources of \$500,000
3. Directs the Public Employees Health Plan to use its reserves to pay for a two-year pilot:
 - a. Up to 50 children ages 2 to 5, who have been diagnosed with autism, can be served through June 2014.
 - b. Services include applied behavior analysis provided by a certified behavior analyst or its equivalent. Families must pay for 20% of the costs. Through November 2012, PEHP has paid out \$28,000.
 - c. Services do not require parental participation.

Additional Resources

- <http://www.health.utah.gov/cshcn/AutismTxAcct/index.html>
- <http://health.utah.gov/autismwaiver/>