

**MEDICAID AUTISM WAIVER**

2010 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Paul Ray**

Senate Sponsor: Howard A. Stephenson

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill relates to the administration of the state's Medicaid program.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ requires the Division of Health Care Financing to develop a range of options for a Medicaid autism waiver;
- ▶ specifies what the options must include;
- ▶ requires the division to develop the options in consultation with persons who have specialized knowledge of autism;
- ▶ requires the division to report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and
- ▶ requires the Health and Human Services Interim Committee to make a recommendation to the Legislature.

**Monies Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Uncodified Material Affected:**

ENACTS UNCODIFIED MATERIAL

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28 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

29 Section 1. **Division of Health Care Financing.**

30 As used in this bill, "division" means the Division of Health Care Financing created in  
31 Section 26-18-2.1.

32 Section 2. **Medicaid autism waiver.**

33 (1) The division shall develop a range of options for a Medicaid waiver that would  
34 authorize the Medicaid program to provide services to persons with autism. The range of  
35 options shall include:

36 (a) an option based on Maryland's waiver for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder  
37 (0339. R02.00); and

38 (b) an option using applied behavioral analysis for children ages 0 to 9.

39 (2) Each option shall include the estimated cost of implementing the waiver to the state  
40 Medicaid program and to an individual Medicaid client, taking into account:

41 (a) eligibility requirements;

42 (b) covered services;

43 (c) number of clients served; and

44 (d) possible funding levels.

45 (3) The division shall consult with families of persons with autism, providers of autism  
46 services, and others with specialized knowledge of autism when developing the range of  
47 options.

48 (4) (a) Before October 1, 2010, the division shall report to the Health and Human  
49 Services Interim Committee as to whether the state should apply for a Medicaid waiver to  
50 provide services to persons with autism.

51 (b) If the division recommends that the state should apply for a Medicaid waiver under  
52 Subsection (4)(a), the report shall also include:

53 (i) specific recommendations regarding the parameters of the Medicaid waiver; and

54 (ii) the appropriate level of funding.

55 (5) Before December 1, 2010, the Health and Human Services Interim Committee shall  
56 determine whether to sponsor legislation to require the Department of Health to apply for a  
57 Medicaid waiver to provide services to persons with autism.

**Legislative Review Note**  
as of 2-3-10 11:05 AM

**Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel**