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