

Report to the Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee

Equal Medicaid Reimbursement Rate for Autism



August 2023

Statutory Requirement

As required by HB003 Item 245 of the 2022 General Session, the Utah Department of Health and Human Services (Department) submits this response to comply with the following intent language:

The Legislature intends that the Department of Health and Human Services utilize all funds allocated for Equal Medicaid Reimbursement Rate for Autism to reimburse qualified service providers for Applied Behavior Analysis treatment given under Medicaid for children with autism. The department shall provide a report within two months after the close of the fiscal year demonstrating that funding appropriated to autism has been spent for this purpose during fiscal year 2023.

Results

The Department implemented rate increases based upon the funding given, estimated utilization, and estimated match rates. The legislature appropriated \$3M for fiscal year 2023. Due to actual utilization for this time period and enhanced federal match, the Department paid out \$2.7M in state funds for the submitted claims. It is important to note that providers have one year to bill for services; however, these costs will be captured in future fiscal years. The General Fund savings of \$0.3M will be returned through the Medicaid consensus process.