

REVENUE: No revenue impact
FISCAL: Minimal fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means
Vote:	3 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Gordly, Courtney, Monnes Anderson
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Carter, Kruse
Prepared By:	Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/30, 5/31

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies that health benefit plans may not deny benefits to an individual who is covered under the plan due to the diagnosis of pervasive developmental disorder. Specifies that the treatment of a pervasive developmental disorder is subject to the same requirements of the plan that applies to physical illness, including copayments, coinsurance or deductibles. Defines pervasive developmental disorder. Directs the Health Resources Commission to review medical and behavioral health evidence on the treatment of pervasive developmental disorders. Directs the Health Resources Commission to report to the Seventy-fifth Legislative Assembly. Exempts these provisions from the automatic repeal provisions.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Insurance companies denying occupational therapy claims for individuals who have developmental disabilities
- Medically necessary services

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The diagnosis of Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) was first used in the 1980s to describe a class of disorders characterized by impairments in social interaction, imaginative activity, verbal and nonverbal communication skills, and a limited number of interests and activities that tend to be repetitive. All types of PDD are neurological disorders that are usually evident by age three. Generally, children with a type of PDD have difficulty in talking, playing with other children, and relating to others, including their family. The five types of PDD are: 1) autistic disorder; 2) Rett's disorder; 3) childhood disintegrative disorder; 4) Asperger's disorder; and 5) pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.