

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, statement not yet issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Rules
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bruun, Cannon, Dembrow, Garrett, Harker, Kennemer, Kotek, Maurer, Thompson, Greenlick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Roxie Cuellar, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	4/8, 4/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires insurance companies and state medical assistance programs to compensate for treatment plans developed for autistic patients under age of 21. Requires that both diagnosis and development of treatment plans be done by licensed psychologists, psychiatrists, or psychiatrist nurse practitioners within previous 12 months. Requires that Autism Spectrum Disorder must be diagnosed as defined in Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition. Allows statutory limits in compensation per annum. Requires interim report to Seventy-sixth Legislative Assembly by Department of Consumer and Business Services on number of children expected to benefit and anticipated costs to insurers.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Requiring specific treatment by statute
- Behavioral treatment of autism
- How diagnosis is made and by whom

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Currently, there is no uniform standard by which autism is diagnosed in Oregon, nor are persons certified as qualified to make such diagnoses. As a result, parents are sometimes told their children suffer from autism based solely upon observations by teachers, family counselors, and other persons who may or may not be qualified to make such an assessment. House Bill 3000 specifies provisions for the diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition. The measure defines who qualifies as an autism service provider, as well as who must diagnose and develop a health benefit plan for someone diagnosed with autism. Insurance coverage for autism is required under the measure if all the prerequisites are met.