

Legislative Analysis



NO RE-EVALUATION FOR CHILDREN WITH ASD

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4059 as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Pauline Wendzel

Committee: Health Policy

Complete to 6-1-21

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4059 would add a section to the division of the Social Welfare Act that concerns county departments of social services. It would provide that a child with a confirmed diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) would not be required to have a re-evaluation to determine continued eligibility for behavioral health treatment unless a re-evaluation was medically necessary.

Proposed MCL 400.109n

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4059 would have a minimal fiscal impact on the state and local units of governments (particularly the local Community Mental Health Services Programs (CMHSPs) that provide behavioral health services). The autism behavioral health services provided by the state and CMHSPs are almost exclusively Medicaid-funded. The current federal Medicaid reimbursement percentage is 64.08%, so any additional costs from this bill would be shared 64.08% federal and 35.92% state.

BRIEF DISCUSSION:

The bill's proponents argued that the current re-evaluation requirement is redundant and costly. The bill would not affect the requirements that a new treatment plan for ASD patients be submitted every six months and a parent meeting take place every three months. However, because the yearly evaluation may only be performed by certain professionals who may be limited in certain regions and thus create a barrier to treatment, the bill would require re-evaluation only when it was medically necessary. Reportedly, Michigan is the only state that requires an annual re-evaluation.

POSITIONS:

A representative of Benton Harbor Logan Center testified in support of the bill. (4-22-21)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

Michigan Behavioral Analysis Providers Association (4-22-21)

The Arc Michigan (5-6-21)

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