

A-2238/S-1651

Brief Description:

- Requires health insurance coverage for therapies for treatments of Autism disorders when determined to be medically necessary.
- Applies to individual and small business health benefits plans and the State Health Benefits Program.
- The annual maximum is \$36, 000.

Sponsor:

A-2238 Assemblypersons V.Prieto (D-Hudson), J. Roberts (D-Camden), J.Voss (D- Bergen), N. Cohen (D- Union)
S-1651 Senators J.Vitale (D- Middlesex), L.Weinberg (D-Bergen)

Reasons to Support:

- Sets a well-meaning, compassionate precedent for research to continue for additional therapies for other illnesses.
- If future “gateway” plans and/or government run programs include this coverage, private market will have to offer same benefit to remain competitive.

Reasons to Oppose:

- Increase in health insurance premiums
- Increase costs for challenged small employer groups
- Since NJ categorized Autism as a BBMI in 1999, it will come under full Mental Health Parity October 2009.

NJAHU Position:

Oppose

Status

6/18/2009 Received in the Assembly, 2nd Reading on Concurrence



Legislative Briefing

6.22.2009