

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Overview

This bill provides for an informational notice regarding autism services, requires MA coverage of certain services for the treatment of autism, requires autism research and a report, and requires certain training of autism service providers.

Section

- 1** **Autism notification.** Creates § 256.9621. Requires the commissioner to: (1) develop an informational notice for parents of children with autism who are enrolled in MA or MinnesotaCare to inform them that their children may qualify to receive services on a fee-for-service basis, which may provide access to an expanded set of providers; (2) make the notice available on the department's public website and include a copy of the notice in the next scheduled mailing to enrolled children; and (3) make the notice available in languages other than English.
- 2** **Services for the treatment of autism.** Amends § 256B.0625, by adding subd. 61. Requires MA services for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and related conditions to include applied behavioral analysis (ABA) and neuro-developmental therapy under certain circumstances.
- 3** **Autism research and report.** Requires the commissioner of health to study the prevention of autism in cultural communities in Minnesota. Specifies the information that must be addressed as part of the study. Requires the commissioner to report the proposed study design to the legislative committees having jurisdiction over public health and health and human services by January 15, 2014.

Section

- 4** **Training of autism service providers.** Requires the commissioners of health and human services to ensure that autism service providers receive training in culturally appropriate approaches to serving certain minority communities, and other cultural groups experiencing a disproportionate incidence of autism.