

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 78TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 28, 2003**

**TO:** Honorable John T. Smithee, Chair, House Committee on Insurance

**FROM:** John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB1543** by Bonnen (Relating to health benefit plan coverage for an enrollee with autism and pervasive developmental disorders.), **As Introduced**

<b>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</b>
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The bill would require health plans to provide any medically necessary treatment, equipment or therapy for the treatment of autism or a pervasive developmental disorder.

The bill would apply to Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO) in the Uniform Group Insurance Plan (UGIP) and could impact HMO costs. However, the impact on the UGIP would be minimal since only approximately 12 percent of UGIP enrollment is in HMO's.

The Texas Department of Insurance would need to develop and propose new and amended rules. They would also have to review form amendments to bring previously-approved form filings into compliance with the new requirements. The agency indicates that any costs could be absorbed within current resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 454 Department of Insurance, 327 Employees Retirement System

**LBB Staff:** JK, JRO, RR, RT, RB