FLOOR AMENDMENT NO._____ BY: Guillen

1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 1, in Article II of the bill, by adding
2 the following appropriately numbered rider following the
3 appropriations to the Department of Aging and Disability
4 Services:
5 ___. Pilot Program for Adults with Autism. (a) It is the
6 intent of the legislature that, out of funds appropriated in
7 Strategy A.4.3., Promoting Independence Plan, the Department of
8 State Health Services shall allocate an appropriate amount in
9 fiscal year 2010 to conduct a study to determine the costs and
10 benefits of a pilot program based on a program designed to:
11 (1) encourage sustainable employment and community
12 integration through specialized supports coordination, case
13 management, vocational assessment, training, and support to
14 increase job skills and competitive employment opportunities;
15 (2) develop meaningful community-based activities for
16 persons for whom competitive employment is not a goal;
17 (3) promote continued individual development and
18 avoid regression;
19 (4) promote self-determination and independence;
20 (5) coordinate services and behavioral supports
21 across all areas of need; and
22 (6) allow for flexible funding and for a flexible
23 array of services to meet individual needs.
24 (b) In conducting the study the Department of State Health
25 Services must:
26 (1) define and describe a pilot program with a
27 seamless system of supports to provide:
28 (A) options for independent living, if
29 appropriate;
30 (B) community-based housing, if needed; and

(C) individualized supports, including:

(i) prevocational training;

(ii) employment training; and

(iii) leisure and recreational activities;

(2) research and analyze best practices and programs from other states that may serve as pilot program models;

(3) consult with and solicit feedback from key stakeholders, including advocacy organizations, potential service recipients, and parents;

(4) address the barriers that may prevent adults with autism or other related disabilities with similar support needs from living in their local community including:

(A) housing needs and living arrangements;

(B) behavioral services;

(C) social and communication services and supports;

(D) transportation issues; and

(E) health and medical care;

(5) identify the existence and cause of service gaps in this state;

(6) develop recommendations and determine costs associated with eliminating service gaps;

(7) identify the potential benefit to persons who would receive services from the pilot program; and

(8) identify potential federal sources of funding for a pilot program.

(c) On or before September 1, 2010, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall submit the findings and conclusions of the study to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the presiding officers of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with

1 primary jurisdiction over the provision of services to persons
2 with disabilities, in a report that must include:
3 (1) a recommendation for the structure of a pilot
4 program;
5 (2) a recommendation on the choice of an appropriate
6 agency to design and administer a pilot program;
7 (3) an estimation of the number of persons who may
8 benefit from a pilot program if a program similar to the pilot
9 program were instituted statewide;
10 (4) an estimation of the potential costs of the pilot
11 program and whether the pilot program may lead to savings;
12 (5) a method of determining which persons would be
13 eligible to participate in the pilot program; and
14 (6) which Medicaid waiver programs are appropriate to
15 the pilot program and whether new Medicaid waiver programs may
16 be required.