

1-1 By: Shapiro S.B. No. 1217
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 2, 2009; March 13, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human Services;
1-4 April 17, 2009, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9,
1-5 Nays 0; April 17, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the creation of an autism program to provide services to
1-9 children with autism spectrum disorder.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 117, Human Resources Code,
1-12 is amended by adding Section 117.075 to read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 117.075. AUTISM PROGRAM. (a) To the extent
1-14 appropriated money is available for the purpose, the department
1-15 shall provide services to children not younger than three or older
1-16 than eight years of age who are diagnosed with autism spectrum
1-17 disorder, to enhance communication, social, and independent living
1-18 skills so that the children may fully participate in society.

1-19 (b) The services must include applied behavioral analysis
1-20 and must complement and not duplicate services outlined in a
1-21 child's individualized education plan developed by an independent
1-22 school district.

1-23 SECTION 2. The executive commissioner of the Health and
1-24 Human Services Commission shall develop the autism program required
1-25 under Section 117.075, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act,
1-26 not later than January 1, 2010.

1-27 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-28 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-29 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-30 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-31 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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