

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 52nd Legislature

Bill No.:	HB 2027
Version:	CS (6644)
Author:	Rep. Kris Steele
Date:	February 10, 2009
Impact:	\$385,000 – 521,000

Bill Summary

Research Analyst: Arnella Karges

The Committee Substitute for House Bill 2027, relating to autism, contains the following provisions:

- establishes state recognition of national Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBA) with a state license;
- directs funds for training Sooner Start providers to specialize in serving children with autism spectrum disorders and authorizes Sooner Start to contract with independent providers;
- directs funds for primary care provider training for evaluations for autism diagnoses;
- establishes an applied behavioral analysis research pilot project utilizing BCBA's for direct treatment, parental training, and supervision of Oklahoma graduates seeking board certification; and
- requires replication of the Early Foundations model, a program that provides intensive behavioral treatment for young children with autism.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Analyst: Mark Newman

The CS for HB 2027 is new language requiring the Oklahoma State Department of Health (OSDH) to establish a licensing process for Licensed Behavioral Analysts and Licensed Assistant Behavioral Analysts that are certified by the National Behavior Analyst Certification Board. This legislation also requires OSDH to use funding and deliver specialized training for providers in the Sooner Start program to develop skills necessary to treat children with autism spectrum disorder. The CS for HB 2027 requires funds be used by the University Hospitals Authority (UHA) for primary care provider evaluation training for providers in the Sooner SUCCESS program to acquire skills necessary to evaluate children with autism spectrum disorder. Another provision of this legislation requires the Developmental Disabilities Services Division (DDSD) of the Department of Human Services (DHS) fund and establish an applied behavioral analysis research pilot project utilizing three Board certified behavioral analysts to treat children with autism. The final provision of the CS for HB 2027 requires the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education to establish a program modeled after Early Foundations, an outreach program that provides early intervention for children with autism, in a county where an Early Foundations program does not exist.

Fiscal Analysis

Based on information provided by OSDH, DDS, Sooner Start, Sooner SUCCESS, and Early Foundations the fiscal impact of implementing the provisions of the CS for HB 2027 will range from \$385,000 to 521,000. The itemized amounts and ranges are listed below:

Licensure	\$35,000
Training for Sooner Start Providers	\$50,000 – 63,000
Increase Sooner SUCCESS capacity	\$50,000 – 55,000
ABA Research Pilot Project	\$150,000 – 180,000, if able to obtain Medicaid match
Early Foundations replication	\$100,000 – 188,000

The cost of implementing the ABA Research Pilot Project is contingent upon the ability of DDS to obtain Medicaid matching funds for 50% of the actual cost. The variations in the amounts projected by different sources are based on the cost of developing these initiatives versus continuing existing programs and differences in salaries and benefits.

Long Term Fiscal Considerations

All improvements in the early detection and treatment of autism spectrum disorders are beneficial to the individual and their family. Early intervention and proper treatment will reduce costs over the long term and improve outcomes.

Fiscal Analysis Reviewed by:

Mark Tygret
House Fiscal Director