



New York S.7000A/A. 10372 (Breslin/Morelle)

An Act to Amend the Insurance Law and the Public Health Law, in Relation to Coverage for the Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder

- An independent actuarial analysis prepared by Oliver Wyman, a leading global actuarial firm, determined the long-term health insurance premium impact of S.7000A/A.10372 **0.63% or \$2.30 per member per month.**
- A comprehensive analysis of similar legislation in Massachusetts (H3809) prepared by The Massachusetts Division of Healthcare Finance and Policy reflected an estimated cost impact of **0.36% or \$1.84 per member per month.**
- BCBS of Minnesota reported their coverage costs in 2007 at **83¢ per member per month.** This included coverage of more than 2,100 individuals with ASD with no age or dollar caps.
- Actual South Carolina cost for similar coverage in 2009 was \$856,000, or approximately **20¢ per member per month.** SC has a population of 4.5M, an enrollment in the state employee health plan of 350,000, and a dollar cap on ABA only of \$50,000. The South Carolina law has no age cap.
- According to New Jersey Speaker Joseph Roberts, a nonpartisan legislative analysis determined it costs \$50,300 to educate an autistic student in New Jersey as compared to \$13,500 for a student that does not have autism. Given that cost disparity, **it was estimated New Jersey could break even by mainstreaming as few as 156 autistic students out of special education.** New Jersey's autism insurance reform bill was signed into law in August of 2009.
- Access to appropriate medical treatment will reduce the need for special education services, as research indicates that **90% of children** with ASD improve when they receive evidence-based intensive interventions like the ones included in S.7000A/A.10372. Children will come to school ready to learn, needing fewer supports.
- The long term cost of caring for a person with autism is **\$3.2 million** over their lifetime according to a 2007 study by the Harvard School of Public Health.
- **Twenty states** have passed similar legislation and more than twenty are currently considering it.