

Recent Autism Initiatives in the New Mexico Legislature

2007 Senate Bill 164, Senator Dede Feldman, requested \$7,750,000 for autism programs in New Mexico \$5,800,000 appropriated (Prevalence 1 in 150)

2009 Senate Bill 34, Senator Clint Harden, requested a specific waiver for children with ASD. Negotiations with the administration yielded the Adaptive Skill Building Program for Medicaid eligible children up to age 5, and the beginning of developing the ABA benefit through NM Medicaid

2009 Senate Bill 39, Senator Clint Harden, private insurance mandate for children with ASD in NM

2010 Senate Joint Memorial 25, Senator Clint Harden, study autism in the public schools

2011 Senate Bill 314, a result of the 2010 study, asks that 11 considerations be discussed at every IEP of a child with ASD. Vetoed by the governor, and then issued as guidance from the PED in June 2011

2012 House Memorial 44, Representative Ed Sandoval, Develop ASD service plan

Senate Memorial 20, Senator Jerry Ortiz-y-Pino, Develop ASD service plan

2013 House Bill 22, Representative Jim Smith, public employee autism insurance mandate (effective January 1, 2015)

2014 HB 69, Representative Liz Thomson, requested \$350k to develop a challenging behavior clinic and an autism oversight team

SB 109, Senator Lisa Torracco, Senate version of HB 69

\$250,000 was appropriated for a behavior clinic and an autism oversight team. (Prevalence 1 in 68)

2015 Funding Request to the Disability Concerns Subcommittee:

\$150,000 to the Department of Health for the UNM Autism Programs to assist core service agencies and their clients with ASD in accessing comprehensive community support services through Centennial Care

Supporting Points

Legislative appropriations for ASD - 5.8 million dollars since 2007, \$250,000 in 2014

ASD Prevalence has doubled since 2007

With state budget challenges – some of this funding has been “adjusted” down

Cost of residential treatment for a couple dozen children with ASD in NM probably exceeds the legislative allocation

There are no specific services for Medicaid eligible adults with ASD who are not DD Waiver clients