

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with House Amendments
ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2268**

Introduced by

Senators Wardner, Nelson

Representative N. Johnson

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for a regional autism spectrum disorder centers of achievement pilot
2 program; to provide for a report to the legislative management; to provide for a legislative
3 management study; and to provide an expiration date.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

5 **SECTION 1. REGIONAL AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER CENTERS OF EARLY**
6 **INTERVENTION AND ACHIEVEMENT PILOT PROGRAM - REPORT TO THE LEGISLATIVE**
7 **MANAGEMENT.** During the 2011-13 biennium, the department of human services may use up
8 to \$200,000 of funding from its legislative appropriation to establish and operate a regional
9 autism spectrum disorder centers of early intervention and achievement pilot program.

- 10 1. The pilot program must provide a matching grant to a qualified applicant that is a
11 nonprofit intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded which is licensed by the
12 department of human services.
- 13 2. A qualified applicant shall establish the availability of one dollar of nonstate, cash
14 matching funds for each grant dollar awarded under this section. The source of the
15 matching funds may not be a gift or grant, but must be funds of the applicant.
- 16 3. A qualified applicant shall submit a plan for the funding, development, and delivery of
17 skilled services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder who reside within the
18 applicant's service region. The plan must provide for the establishment of a regional
19 autism spectrum disorder center of early intervention and achievement in a city with a
20 population of more than ten thousand.
- 21 4. As a condition of award of a grant under this program, a qualified applicant shall agree
22 to collaborate with the department of human services in developing and implementing
23 the plan as well as postaward monitoring by the department of human services.

1 5. The department of human services shall report to the legislative management before
2 September 1, 2012, on the preliminary findings and recommendations of the pilot
3 program.

4 **SECTION 2. AUTISM STUDY - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** During the
5 2011-12 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the current system for the
6 diagnosis of, early treatment of, care for, and education of individuals with autism spectrum
7 disorder. The study must include a review of a sliding fee scale for payment of services and the
8 value of services provided. The study must consider the recommendations of the autism
9 spectrum disorder task force and must seek input from stakeholders in the private and public
10 sectors, including families impacted by autism spectrum disorder, insurers, educators, treatment
11 providers, early childhood service providers, caretakers, and nonprofit intermediate care
12 facilities for the mentally retarded. The legislative management shall report its findings and
13 recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to
14 the sixty-third legislative assembly.

15 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective through December 31,
16 2012, and after that date is ineffective.