

**FIRST ENGROSSMENT
with Conference Committee 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 early intervention
2 and achievement pilot program; to provide for a report to the legislative management; to provide
3 for a report to the sixty-third legislative assembly; to provide for a legislative management study;
4 and to provide an expiration date.

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

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

- 12 1. The pilot program must provide a matching grant to a qualified applicant that is a
13 nonprofit intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities which is
14 licensed by the department of human services.
- 15 2. A qualified applicant shall establish the availability of \$1 of nonstate, cash matching
16 funds for each grant dollar awarded under this section. The source of the matching
17 funds must be funds of the applicant.
- 18 3. A qualified applicant shall submit a plan for the funding, development, and delivery of
19 skilled services to individuals with autism spectrum disorder who reside within the
20 applicant's service region. The plan must provide for the establishment of a regional
21 autism spectrum disorder center of early intervention and achievement in a city with a
22 population of more than ten thousand.

1 4. As a condition of a grant award under this program, a qualified applicant shall agree to
2 collaborate with the department of human services in developing and implementing
3 the plan as well as postaward monitoring by the department of human services.

4 5. The department of human services shall report to the legislative management before
5 September 30, 2012, on the preliminary findings and recommendations of the pilot
6 program. The department of human services shall provide a written report
7 summarizing the status of the pilot program and any findings and recommendations to
8 the legislative management before December 31, 2012.

9 6. The department of human services shall report to the appropriations committees of the
10 sixty-third legislative assembly on the status of the pilot program and any findings and
11 recommendations.

12 **SECTION 2. AUTISM STUDY - LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT STUDY.** During the
13 2011-12 interim, the legislative management shall consider studying the current system for the
14 diagnosis of, early treatment of, care for, and education of individuals with autism spectrum
15 disorder. The study must include a review of a sliding fee scale for payment of services and the
16 value of services provided. The study must consider the recommendations of the autism
17 spectrum disorder task force and must seek input from stakeholders in the private and public
18 sectors, including families affected by autism spectrum disorder, insurers, educators, treatment
19 providers, early childhood service providers, caretakers, and nonprofit intermediate care
20 facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities. The legislative management shall report its
21 findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the
22 recommendations, to the sixty-third legislative assembly.

23 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective through June 30, 2013,
24 and after that date is ineffective.