

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION
LEGISLATIVE BILL 482

Introduced by Johnson, 37

Read first time January 17, 2007

Committee: Health and Human Services

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to the Medical Assistance Act; to amend section
2 68-901, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2006; to
3 provide for the coverage of qualifying autism services
4 under the act as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; to
5 repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 68-901, Revised Statutes Cumulative
2 Supplement, 2006, is amended to read:

3 68-901 Sections 68-901 to 68-949 and section 2 of this
4 act shall be known and may be cited as the Medical Assistance Act.

5 Sec. 2. (1) The department shall apply for a waiver or
6 an amendment to an existing waiver under the medical assistance
7 program established in section 68-903 for the purpose of providing
8 medical assistance for intensive early intervention services based
9 on behavioral principles for children with a medical diagnosis
10 of an autism spectrum disorder or an educational verification of
11 autism.

12 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that such waiver
13 or amendment (a) require means testing for and cost-sharing by
14 recipient families; (b) limit eligibility only to children for
15 whom such services have been initiated prior to the age of nine
16 years; (c) be implemented incrementally over time; (d) require
17 demonstrated progress toward the attainment of treatment goals as a
18 condition for continued receipt of medical assistance benefits for
19 such treatment; (e) be developed in consultation with the Health
20 and Human Services Committee of the Legislature and the federal
21 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and with the input of
22 parents and families of children with autism spectrum disorders
23 and organizations advocating on behalf of such persons; and (f) be
24 submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
25 as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than July 1, 2008.

1 (3) The department shall provide monthly progress reports
2 to the Health and Human Services Committee of the Legislature
3 during the preparation of such waiver or amendment, beginning on
4 July 1, 2007.

5 Sec. 3. Original section 68-901, Revised Statutes
6 Cumulative Supplement, 2006, is repealed.

7 Sec. 4. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect
8 when passed and approved according to law.