



One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 27

Chairperson: Tim Gay
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 12, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 27 amends the Autism Treatment Program Act enacted in 2007. The treatment program has not been implemented because of disagreements about the administration of the medicaid waiver required to offer services under the act. LB 27 clarifies that *nonclinical administration* of the waiver resides with the Department of Health and Human Services and *clinical administration* resides with the Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders at the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

The bill directs the department to enter into an interagency agreement with the University that specifies clinical administrative responsibilities, in addition to the provision of services, as follows. The clinical responsibilities of the center shall be reimbursed by the department and the clinical responsibilities shall include:

1. development of standards for service providers for use by the department to credential providers,
2. evaluation of appropriateness of treatment plans and outcome objectives, quality of services provided, and progress toward treatment goals,
3. receipt, processing, and eligibility determination of applications for autism waiver services, excluding medicaid eligibility determination and maintenance of electronic files normally performed by the department,
4. reporting to the department on waiver participant outcomes,
5. complaint documentation and remediation and incident documentation and referral to the department, and
6. assisting the department in the appeals process.

The bill delays the implementation of the program from July 1, 2007 to July 1, 2009.

Principal Introducer: _____
Senator Rich Pahls