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House Bill 4059 (as reported by the Committee of the Whole)
Sponsor: Representative Pauline Wendzel
House Committee: Health Policy
Senate Committee: Health Policy and Human Services

CONTENT

The bill would amend the Public Health Code to specify that if an initial evaluation was completed by a qualified licensed practitioner, a child with a confirmed diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder would not be required to have a re-evaluation to determine continued eligibility for behavioral health treatment unless a re-evaluation was medically necessary.

"Qualified licensed practitioner" would mean one of the following:

- A physician with a specialty in psychiatry or neurology.
- A physician with a subspecialty in developmental pediatrics.
- A physician with a specialty in pediatrics or other appropriate specialty with training, experience, or expertise in autism spectrum disorder or behavioral health.
- A psychologist with a specialty in clinical child psychology, behavioral and cognitive psychology, or clinical neuropsychology, or other appropriate specialty with training, experience, or expertise in autism spectrum disorder or behavioral health.
- A clinical social worker with at least one year of experience working within his or her scope of practice who is qualified and experienced in diagnosing autism spectrum disorder.
- An advanced practice registered nurse with training, experience, or expertise in autism spectrum disorder or behavioral health.
- A physician's assistant with training, experience, or expertise in autism spectrum disorder or behavioral health.

Proposed MCL 400.109n

Legislative Analyst: Stephen Jackson

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have a marginal impact on Medicaid costs for autism services. Reducing the number of re-evaluations would reduce program costs by a small amount relative to overall spending. Reducing the number of re-evaluations for those receiving services could, in cases in which the original evaluation was inaccurate, lead to increases in spending on services.

Date Completed: 10-21-21

Fiscal Analyst: Steve Angelotti