

Senate Bill 118

By: Senators Unterman of the 45th, Albers of the 56th, Beach of the 21st, Millar of the 40th,  
Kirk of the 13th and others

**AS PASSED SENATE**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 33-24-59.10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 coverage for autism, so as to change the age limit for coverage for autism spectrum disorders  
3 for an individual covered under a policy or contract; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 33-24-59.10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to coverage  
8 for autism, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

9 "(b) Accident and sickness contracts, policies, or benefit plans shall provide coverage for  
10 autism spectrum disorders for an individual covered under a policy or contract who is ~~six~~  
11 12 years of age or under in accordance with the following:

12 (1) The policy or contract shall provide coverage for any assessments, evaluations, or  
13 tests by a licensed physician or licensed psychologist to diagnose whether an individual  
14 has an autism spectrum disorder;

15 (2) The policy or contract shall provide coverage for the treatment of autism spectrum  
16 disorders when it is determined by a licensed physician or licensed psychologist that the  
17 treatment is medically necessary health care. A licensed physician or licensed  
18 psychologist may be required to demonstrate ongoing medical necessity for coverage  
19 provided under this Code section at least annually;

20 (3) The policy or contract shall not include any limits on the number of visits;

21 (4) The policy or contract may limit coverage for applied behavior analysis to  
22 \$30,000.00 per year. An insurer shall not apply payments for coverage unrelated to  
23 autism spectrum disorders to any maximum benefit established under this paragraph; and

24 (5) This subsection shall not be construed to require coverage for prescription drugs if  
25 prescription drug coverage is not provided by the policy or contract. Coverage for  
26 prescription drugs for the treatment of autism spectrum disorders shall be determined in

27 the same manner as coverage for prescription drugs for the treatment of any other illness  
28 or condition is determined under the policy or contract."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.