

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NUMBER: H822 (First Edition)

SHORT TITLE: Health Insurance Coverage/Early Intervention

SPONSOR(S): Representatives Alexander and Warren

FISCAL IMPACT					
	Yes ()	No (X)	No Estimate Available ()		
	<u>FY 2003-04</u>	<u>FY 2004-05</u>	<u>FY 2005-06</u>	<u>FY 2006-07</u>	<u>FY 2007-08</u>
REVENUES					
EXPENDITURES					
POSITIONS: (cumulative)					
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT(S) & PROGRAM(S) AFFECTED:	Department of Insurance				
EFFECTIVE DATE:	January 1, 2004				

BILL SUMMARY (adopted from the April 1, 2002 Bill Digest):

This bill would require health benefit plans to cover medically necessary early intervention services for children from birth to three years of age who are covered under the plan. The bill enacts G.S. § 58-51-36 to provide that services covered are those that are part of the child's Individualized Family Services Plan and that services covered may be limited to \$5,000 annually and not more than \$15,000 over the three-year eligibility period. Coverage is required only for those services not covered by Medicaid or other public assistance programs and that are to be provided by a specialist in accordance with rules adopted by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. The bill makes conforming amendment to G.S. § 58-50-155. It is effective January 1, 2004, and applies to plans issued or renewed on and after that date.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODOLOGY:

The Department of Insurance is responsible for monitoring and regulating the covered services and terms of coverage offered by insurance companies. This responsibility is carried out through the Department's Life and Health Division's review and approval of insurance companies' policy forms to ensure that they are in compliance with applicable laws and regulations. The Department believes that the review and enforcement activity necessary to ensure that providers are complying with the requirement to offer early intervention services falls within the Department's current form review authority. Thus, the Department does not anticipate that this bill will have any fiscal impact on them.

SOURCES OF DATA: Department of Insurance

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DATE: April 23, 2003



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