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**SF 2349** – Autism Insurance Coverage for State Employees (LSB 1118SV.1)  
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Fiscal Note Version – As amended by H-8372

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**Description**

**Senate File 2349**, as amended by the H-8372, creates requirements for certain group health insurance policies, contracts, or plans to provide coverage benefits for the diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder. The requirements are applicable only to State employee policies. Benefits are required for covered individuals under 21 years of age. The Bill specifies that the maximum coverage amount is not to exceed \$36,000 annually. An Autism Service Provider that provides treatments must be certified as a Behavioral Analyst by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board or must be a licensed health professional.

**Background**

Coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders is currently provided under the State of Iowa employee plan provisions in Iowa Code Chapter 514C.22. Under the proposed legislation, the definition of Autism Spectrum Disorders and treatments is broadened to include Applied Behavior Analysis.

**Assumptions**

- The Department of Administrative Services which administers the State employee plan offered by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield has indicated premium costs would rise less than 0.05% or \$52,000 for FY 2011 and subsequent fiscal years.
- The Board of Regents estimates additional costs in medical claims to be \$80,000 in FY 2011 and subsequent fiscal years.

**Fiscal Impact**

**Senate File 2349**, as amended, is estimated to increase General Fund expenditures by \$132,000 for FY 2011 and subsequent fiscal years for the cost of additional claims.

**Sources**

Department of Administrative Services, Iowa Insurance Division, Iowa Board of Regents, Iowa Board of Medicine, Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

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The fiscal note for this bill was prepared pursuant to **Joint Rule 17**. Data used in developing this fiscal note is available from the Fiscal Services Division of the Legislative Services Agency upon request.

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