

# State Corporation Commission

## 2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

**1. Bill Number:** HB2577

House of Origin ☐ Introduced ☐ Substitute ☐ Engrossed  
Second House ☐ In Committee ☐ Substitute ☒ Enrolled

**2. Patron:** Thomas

**3. Committee:** Passed Both Houses

**4. Title:** Health insurance; coverage for autism spectrum disorder.

**5. Summary:** Requires health insurers, health care subscription plans, and health maintenance organizations to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals of any age. Currently, such coverage is required to be provided for individuals from age two through age 10. The provision applies with respect to insurance policies, subscription contracts, and health care plans delivered, issued for delivery, reissued, or extended on or after January 1, 2020.

**6. Budget Amendment Necessary:** No - see Item 8.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** No fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission. According to the Department of Human Resource Management, there will be a minimal fiscal impact to the state Health Insurance Fund. Estimates are Preliminary. See Item 8.

**7. Fiscal Impact Estimates:** Preliminary – see Item 8.

**7a. Expenditure Impact:**

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Positions</i>	<i>Fund</i>
2019	\$0	0	-
2020	\$21,500	0	GF
2020	\$21,500	0	NGF
2021	\$21,500	0	GF
2021	\$21,500	0	NGF
2022	\$21,500	0	GF
2022	\$21,500	0	NGF
2023	\$21,500	0	GF
2023	\$21,500	0	NGF
2024	\$21,500	0	GF
2024	\$21,500	0	NGF
2025	\$21,500	0	GF
2025	\$21,500	0	NGF

**8. Fiscal Implications:** There is no fiscal impact on the State Corporation Commission. According to the Department of Human Resource Management (DHRM), there will be a minimal fiscal impact to the state Health Insurance Fund (HIF) because the state health insurance plans would cover individuals with autism spectrum disorder at any age. The state health plan currently covers individuals with autism spectrum disorder up to age 18. A

budget amendment is not required as the state HIF will be able to absorb the estimated total annual cost of \$43,000. DHRM estimates that 0.9% of the members of the state health plan have autism. As a result of House Bill 2577, approximately 5.5% of members with autism who are between the ages of 19 and 21 will receive treatment (usually applied behavioral analysis for 3 hours per week) through the state health plan. The DHRM did note that the need for treatment does decrease as the individuals with autism age and is generally ceased after age 22.

- 9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected:** State Corporation Commission; Department of Human Resource Management

- 10. Technical Amendment Necessary:** No

- 11. Other Comments:** House Bill 2577 removes the age limit of 2 years to 10 years in § 38.2-3418.7 to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorder in individuals of any age. The autism health insurance mandate was originally enacted in 2011, to provide coverage for individuals from 2 to 6 years old. In 2015, the age range was expanded to ages 2 to 10.

House Bill 2577 applies to fully-insured large employer groups only as specified in subsection F of § 38.2-3418.7.

Senate Bill 1693 is similar to House Bill 2577, but it limits the treatment of autism spectrum disorder to the range of ages 2 to 18 years.

**Date:** 02/21/19/V.Tompkins