

Department of Planning and Budget 2018 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: SB337

House of Origin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Introduced	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engrossed
Second House	<input type="checkbox"/>	In Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Substitute	<input type="checkbox"/>	Enrolled

2. Patron: Stuart

3. Committee: Rules

4. Title: Autism, Commission on; established.

5. Summary: Establishes the Commission on Autism as an advisory commission in the executive branch of state government. The purpose of the Commission is to review and make recommendations for the improvement of services and programs for individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: Yes, Item 281.

7. Fiscal Impact Estimates: \$15,000 - \$20,000

8. Fiscal Implications: The proposed bill establishes the Commission on Autism and outlines its membership and duties. The membership of the Commission is comprised of 20 members consisting of two legislative members, sixteen nonlegislative members, and two ex officio members (Secretary of Health and Human Resources and Secretary of Education).

Members are compensated at the established rate of \$50 per work day; however, the language of the bill does not specify one particular agency that is responsible for the costs of the commission, rather that “the costs of expenses of the members shall be provided by such executive branch agencies as the Governor designates.”. The current legislative Autism Advisory Council, which sunsets at the end of FY 2018, has eight members and an appropriation of \$6,475. It is reasonable to assume the cost of a twenty-member commission will be in the range of \$15,000 - \$20,000 per year. For the purposes of comparison, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS) State Board has 11 members and meets quarterly for two-day meetings with a budget of approximately \$10,000. In addition, DBHDS and other state agencies would be responsible for providing staff support.

For the purposes of this fiscal impact statement, it is assumed that the funds associated with the commission’s operation would be appropriated in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, Secretary of Health and Human Resources, Department of Education, all executive branch agencies, Secretary of Education

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No

11. Other Comments: None