

Fiscal Estimate Narratives
OCI 2/2/2009

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| LRB Number 09-0780/1 | Introduction Number SB-003 | Estimate Type Original |
| Description Health insurance coverage of treatment for autism spectrum disorders | | |

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

The Office of Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) ensures compliance with Wisconsin's laws and regulations, and responds to complaints. Ensuring that insurers comply with the requirements of this bill will be fulfilled as part of the standard activities of the office. Any additional cost will be absorbed by OCI.

In accordance with s. 601.423, Wis Stats., OCI will prepare the mandated study on the fiscal and social impacts of new mandated insurance benefits.

The fiscal effect on local Governments is indeterminate. The treatment of autism spectrum disorders is not currently a mandated coverage in Wisconsin health insurance plans and depends on the employer's desire to offer this coverage. Furthermore, an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis can vary greatly in the degree of severity, which would affect treatment options and the costs associated with those treatments. OCI does not have data that identifies how many local governments have this type coverage in their health benefit plans or the number of individuals covered by local government health care plans with an autism spectrum disorder.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications