

## OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sHB-7109

AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAID COVERAGE FOR APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS SERVICES, IMPLEMENTING CERTAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TRANSFORMING CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE AND ABUSE INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING BEHAVIORAL ANALYSTS.

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### ***OFA Fiscal Note***

#### ***State Impact:***

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Social Services, Dept.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below
Legislative Mgmt.	GF - Potential Cost	200,000 to 500,000	None

Note: GF=General Fund

***Municipal Impact:*** None

#### ***Explanation***

**Section 1** of the bill results in a cost to the Department of Social Services (DSS) beginning in FY 26 associated with 1) increasing Medicaid rates for board-certified behavior analysts providing supervision, assessment, and direct services; 2) covering Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) services under HUSKY B; and 3) providing Medicaid coverage for caregiver training using ABA.

DSS will incur costs of at least \$1.3 million (approximately 35% state share) beginning in FY 26 to cover ABA services under HUSKY B. For context, based on national trend data, approximately 1 in 36 children are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) (2.8%). Thus, of the 22,292 children on HUSKY B, it is assumed that approximately 624 will qualify for ABA services.

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Reviewer: RW

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There is also a cost to DSS related to increasing Medicaid rates for board-certified behavior analysts providing supervision, assessment, and direct services. The cost to the state will depend on the rates established and associated utilization which are unknown at this time.

DSS may also incur additional costs to the extent that Medicaid coverage is needed for ABA caregiver training not currently being provided by the agency.

**Section 3** allows the Transforming Children's Behavioral Health Policy and Planning Committee to contract with the Yale Child Study Center to determine if additional federal funding is available and to conduct a trial of the center to see if it may qualify as an evidence-based treatment program resulting in a potential cost to the Office of Legislative Management (OLM). If the committee decides to contract with Yale for these services, there is a potential cost to OLM of approximately \$200,000 to \$500,000 in FY 26. The exact cost is dependent on the services requested and the terms of the contract between Yale and the committee.

### ***The Out Years***

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to service rates and associated utilization.