



2017-2018 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 257: Appropriations Act of 2017, Sec. 22.3: Allow Adaptive Behavior Treatment Covered by a Health Benefit Plan to be Provided or Supervised by a Board Certified Behavior Analyst.

Committee:
Introduced by:
Analysis of: Sec. 22.3 of S.L. 2017-57

Date: August 15, 2017
Prepared by: Kristen L. Harris
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: *Sec. 22.3 of S.L. 2017-57 adds "board-certified behavior analyst" to the professionals listed in the statute who can provide or supervise adaptive behavior treatment and have it covered by insurance.*

This section became effective on July 1, 2017, and applies to insurance contracts issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.

CURRENT LAW: Under G.S. 58-3-192 [Coverage for autism spectrum disorder], insurers must provide coverage for adaptive behavior treatment for individuals 18 years of age or younger, in the amount of at least \$40,000 per year. In order to qualify for coverage, the treatment must be provided by a licensed psychologist or psychological associate, a licensed psychiatrist or developmental pediatrician, a licensed speech and language pathologist, a licensed occupational therapist, a licensed clinical social worker, a licensed professional counselor, or a licensed marriage and family therapist. North Carolina currently does not have an occupational licensing or certification board for behavior analysts.

BILL ANALYSIS: Sec. 22.3 of S.L. 2017-57 requires insurers to provide coverage for adaptive behavior treatment supervised or provided by a board-certified behavior analyst.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective on July 1, 2017, and applies to insurance contracts issued, renewed, or amended on or after that date.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578