

By Representative Tullis

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to autism; providing for  
3           clinical trials to be conducted on the use of  
4           the drug Secretin by a nonprofit provider;  
5           requiring a report; providing an appropriation;  
6           providing an effective date.

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8           WHEREAS, autism is a developmental disability that  
9           afflicts a significant number of children in this state, and

10           WHEREAS, the state's services to autistic children  
11           require the expenditure of substantial state and federal  
12           funds, and

13           WHEREAS, it is in the interest of families and  
14           communities to find ways to ameliorate the effects of autism,  
15           and

16           WHEREAS, the drug Secretin shows potential for reducing  
17           the severity of autism and related autistic behaviors, NOW,  
18           THEREFORE,

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20           Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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22                   Section 1. (1) The Division of Children's Medical  
23           Services of the Department of Health shall contract with a  
24           private nonprofit provider affiliated with a teaching hospital  
25           to conduct clinical trials, approved by a federally sanctioned  
26           institutional review board within the teaching hospital, on  
27           the use of the drug Secretin to treat autism.

28                   (2) The private nonprofit provider shall report its  
29           findings to the Division of Children's Medical Services, the  
30           President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
31           Representatives, and other appropriate bodies.

1           Section 2. The sum of \$50,000 is appropriated to the  
2 Division of Children's Medical Services of the Department of  
3 Health from the General Revenue Fund for the purpose of  
4 implementing this act.

5           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

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10 Directs the Division of Children's Medical Services of  
11 the Department of Health to contract with a nonprofit  
12 provider to conduct clinical trials on the use of the  
13 drug Secretin to treat autism.

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