

By Senator Myers

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to autism; providing for clinical trials to be conducted on the use of the drug Secretin by a nonprofit provider; requiring a report; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

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

Section 1. (1) The Division of Children's Medical Services of the Department of Health shall contract with a private nonprofit provider affiliated with a teaching hospital to conduct clinical trials on the use of the drug Secretin to treat autism.

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

