

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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