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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/24/2010	.	
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The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Ring) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment**

Delete lines 27 - 45  
and insert:

(1) If the parent or legal guardian of a minor believes that the minor exhibits symptoms of autism spectrum disorder as defined in ss. 627.6686 and 641.31098, the parent or legal guardian may report his or her observation to a physician licensed in this state. The physician shall perform screening in accordance with American Academy of Pediatrics' guidelines. If the physician determines that referral to a specialist is medically necessary, he or she shall refer the minor to an



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13 appropriate specialist to determine whether the minor meets  
14 diagnostic criteria for autism spectrum disorder as defined in  
15 ss. 627.6686 and 641.31098. If the physician determines that  
16 referral to a specialist is not medically necessary, the  
17 physician shall inform the parent or legal guardian that they  
18 can self-refer to the Early Steps intervention program or other  
19 specialist in autism. This section does not apply to a physician  
20 providing care under s. 395.1041.

21 (2) As used in this section, the term "appropriate  
22 specialist" means a qualified professional who is experienced in  
23 the evaluation of autism spectrum disorder as defined in ss.  
24 627.6686 and 641.31098, is licensed in this state, and has  
25 training in validated diagnostic tools. The term