

February 24, 2011

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Statement
Of
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
On
SB 978 An Act Concerning Group Health Insurance Coverage For The Treatment Of
Autism Spectrum Disorders To Certificate Holders In This State

Good afternoon, Senator Crisco, Representative Fontana and members of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee. My name is Christine Cappiello and I am the Director of Government Relations for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut and I am here to testify on **SB 978 An Act Concerning Group Health Insurance Coverage For The Treatment Of Autism Spectrum Disorders To Certificate Holders In This State**

We are concerned about this legislation because we do not know of any other mandate in the Connecticut statutes where it applies not only to the policy holder but also to the certificate holder. This appears to be trying to have the mandate apply to policies that are written to out of state employers who have employees in the state. This is unprecedented in Connecticut insurance law.

We also want to continue to point out to the committee that any mandate legislation that is adopted by the Committee must take into consideration the components of Patient Protection and Accountability Care Act (PPACA) which will require the state to have certain health benefit plans available to all of its citizens. This legislation appears on its face to run afoul of PPACA.

Thank you for your time and I am here to answer any questions that the Committee might have.