AN ACT CONCERNING AUTISM.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (Effective July 1, 2019) For purposes of this section and section 17b-283 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, "autism spectrum disorder" has the same meaning as set forth in the most recent edition of the American Psychiatric Association's "Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders". Notwithstanding sections 17a-215 and 17a-215c of the general statutes, the Commissioner of Developmental Services, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Services, shall implement a coordinated, interagency effort to ensure that persons with autism spectrum disorder with developmental disabilities receive a full range of available services from the Department of Developmental Services.

Sec. 2. Section 17b-283 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2019):

(a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall, within available appropriations, administer a Medicaid waiver program pursuant to
Section 1915(c) of the Social Security Act to provide home and community-based services for persons who (1) are institutionalized or at risk of institutionalization; [and who (1)] (2) are twenty-one years of age or younger; [(2)] (3) have a physical disability and may also have a co-occurring developmental disability; and [(3)] (4) meet the financial eligibility criteria established in the waiver.

(b) Not later than September 1, 2019, the Commissioner of Social Services shall amend the waiver program to provide additional home and community-based services to persons who (1) are institutionalized or at risk of institutionalization; (2) are twenty-one years of age or younger; (3) have autism spectrum disorder; and (4) meet the financial eligibility criteria established in the waiver. The commissioner shall amend the Medicaid state plan, if necessary, to provide coverage for services that are medically necessary, as defined in section 17b-259b, for persons with autism spectrum disorder.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 1</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>New section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sec. 2</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
<td>17b-283</td>
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</tbody>
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Statement of Purpose:
To ensure that persons with autism spectrum disorder receive services from the Department of Developmental Services and are eligible for Medicaid coverage despite family earnings.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]