

Report to:

Utah Department of Health Executive Director
Health and Human Services Interim Committee
Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee

Autism Treatment Account Legislative Report

Prepared by the:

Utah Department of Health, Autism Treatment Account Advisory Committee

November 2015



Purpose of Report

This report is submitted in response to the following language from Utah Code Annotated 26-52-202 (9):

“Not later than November 30 of each year, the [Autism Treatment Account Advisory] committee shall provide a written report summarizing the activities of the committee to:

- (i) the executive director of the department;
 - (ii) the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee; and
 - (iii) the Legislature's Social Services Appropriations Subcommittee.
- (b) The report under Subsection (8)(a) shall include:
- (i) the number of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder who are receiving services under this chapter;
 - (ii) the types of services provided to children under this chapter; and
 - (iii) results of any evaluations on the effectiveness of treatments and services provided under this chapter.”

Overview

The Autism Treatment Account (ATA):

- Established in March 2010 by the Utah Legislature with the passage of House Bill 311.
- Revised during the 2012 legislative session to create a two year pilot program to provide services for children ages 2 to 7 years.
- Revised during the 2014 legislative session to make technical and conforming changes to the language of the law. However, no funding was allocated and the ATA Pilot Program ended June 30, 2014.

Autism Treatment Account: FY2015 Activities

The ATA Advisory Committee and the Utah Department of Health met once during FY15. The committee reviewed the final evaluation report submitted by Utah State University and reviewed and approved the 2014 legislative report. As there was no continued funding, all activities ceased.

Number of children with ASD who received services

One child received services during FY15 as one of the service providers had a small sum of funds remaining in their contract and the ATA Restricted Account had carryover authority to spend the funds.

All other elements of the required report are not applicable as there was no ongoing funding and the Pilot Program had ended.

RECOMMENDATION: It is the recommendation of the Utah Department of Health and the Autism Treatment Account Advisory Committee that the legislature strongly consider repealing this law. With no continued funding, there is no reason for the ATA Advisory Committee to continue to meet and to be responsible for reporting on a non-existent program.