

SENATE BILL No. 177

January 29, 2009, Introduced by Senators HUNTER and CLARK-COLEMAN and referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill to establish the autism research fund in the department of community health; to provide for the distribution of the money from the fund; to prescribe the powers and duties of certain agencies and officials; and to provide for appropriations.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
2 "autism research fund act".

3 Sec. 3. As used in this act:

4 (a) "Department" means the department of community health.

5 (b) "Fund" means the autism research fund created in section
6 5.

7 (c) "Institution of higher education" means an institution of
8 higher education or a community or junior college described in
9 section 4, 5, 6, or 7 of article VIII of the state constitution of

1 1963 or an independent nonprofit degree-granting institution of
2 postsecondary education in this state that is approved by the state
3 board of education.

4 Sec. 5. (1) The autism research fund is created in the
5 department to provide funds to promote research in this state
6 relating to autism.

7 (2) The state treasurer shall credit to the fund all amounts
8 appropriated for this purpose under section 435 of the income tax
9 act of 1967, 1967 PA 281, MCL 206.435, and money from any other
10 source for deposit into the fund.

11 (3) The state treasurer shall direct the investment of the
12 fund. The fund shall consist of the money credited to the fund
13 pursuant to section 435 of the income tax act of 1967, 1967 PA 281,
14 MCL 206.435, any interest and earnings accruing from the saving and
15 investment of that money, and money from any other source.

16 (4) Money in the fund at the close of the year shall remain in
17 the fund and shall not lapse to the general fund.

18 Sec. 7. (1) The money, interest, and earnings of the fund
19 shall be expended solely for the following purposes:

20 (a) To promote research relating to autism and to disseminate
21 the results of the research on the triggers of autism and on
22 methods of diagnosing and treating autism.

23 (b) For grants to a hospital located in this state that
24 specializes in the research, diagnosis, and treatment of autism or
25 to an institution of higher education devoted to conducting
26 research relating to autism.

27 (c) For grants to any other organization approved by the

1 department for research relating to autism.

2 (2) Money from the fund may be used as matching funds for a
3 federal grant if those funds are to be used for the purposes
4 described under subsection (1).

5 Sec. 9. The money in the fund that is available for
6 distribution shall be appropriated each year. Money granted or
7 received as a gift or donation to the fund is available for
8 distribution upon appropriation.