



Senator Scott T. Rupp

District 2

# Press Release

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## **Senator Scott T. Rupp Advances Autism Insurance Reform Measure through Senate**

***Families are one step closer to receiving insurance coverage for neurological disorder***

JEFFERSON CITY — A bill Missouri Sen. Scott T. Rupp has handled in the Senate is one step closer to law, as the Senate has approved a House version of autism health insurance reform. [House Bill 1311](#) is a version that is similar to Senator Rupp's original [Senate Bill 618](#), which received approval by the Senate earlier this year. The measure requires coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorders, including coverage for applied behavior analysis, for up to a maximum of \$45,000 annually through the age of 18.

The House version also establishes a state Behavior Analyst Advisory Board. The new board would be under the State Committee of Psychologists within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration. The new board is charged with establishing licensure and registration requirements for behavior analysts and assistant behavior analysts who provide therapies for children with autism spectrum disorders.

"I'm very pleased that the Senate has again shown its overwhelming support of this measure that affects so many Missouri families," said Sen. Rupp. "It is very good to know that we're that much closer to providing a real substantial impact to how we approach this disorder in Missouri, to move our state forward."

Both HB 1311 and SB 618 currently await action by the Missouri House.

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