**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND SECTION 38-71-280(A)(1) OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO ACCIDENT AND HEALTH INSURANCE, AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER COVERAGE, AND ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS, TO PROVIDE THAT AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER MEANS ANY OF THE PERVASIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DISORDERS OR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS AS DEFINED BY THE MOST RECENT EDITION OF THE DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS OR THE EDITION IN EFFECT AT THE TIME OF DIAGNOSIS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Section 38-71-280(A)(1) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(1) ‘Autism spectrum disorder’ means ~~one of the three following disorders as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association:~~

~~(a)~~ ~~Autistic Disorder;~~

~~(b)~~ ~~Asperger's Syndrome;~~

~~(c)~~ ~~Pervasive Developmental Disorder—Not Otherwise Specified~~ any of the pervasive developmental disorders or autism spectrum disorders as defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) or the edition in effect at the time of diagnosis.”

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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