

8-506.

BEGINNING JULY 1, 2007, THE DEPARTMENT, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, SHALL:

(1) DEVELOP ~~A~~ AN IMPROVED REFERRAL SYSTEM BETWEEN PEDIATRICIANS AND THE ~~MARYLAND~~ INFANTS AND TODDLERS PROGRAM;

(2) MONITOR THE REFERRAL SYSTEM BY MEETING WITH PARTICIPATING PEDIATRICIANS TO SOLICIT FEEDBACK AND IDENTIFY ISSUES WITH THE REFERRAL SYSTEM; AND

(3) DEVELOP SUPPORT FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS BY:

(I) ESTABLISHING A HOTLINE ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS;
AND

(II) PROVIDING INFORMATION ON RESOURCES, INCLUDING THE KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE'S CENTER FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISORDERS, THE PATHFINDERS FOR AUTISM RESOURCE CENTER, AND LOCAL CHAPTERS OF THE AUTISM SOCIETY OF AMERICA.

8-507.

TO ADMINISTER THE PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT WITH A QUALIFIED RESEARCH ORGANIZATION WITH:

(1) KNOWLEDGE OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS; AND

(2) RESEARCH AND CLINICAL EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY DETECTION OF AND INTERVENTION FOR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS.

8-508.

ON OR BEFORE ~~JUNE~~ OCTOBER 1 OF EACH YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE AND THE HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PILOT PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY THIS SUBTITLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2005. It shall remain in effect for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2008, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 10, 2005.
