

AN ACT concerning regulation.

**Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,
represented in the General Assembly:**

Section 5. The Child Care Act of 1969 is amended by adding
Section 3.5 as follows:

(225 ILCS 10/3.5 new)

Sec. 3.5. Group homes for adolescents diagnosed with
autism.

(a) Subject to appropriation, the Department of Human
Services, Developmental Disabilities Division, shall provide
for the establishment of 3 children's group homes for
adolescents who have been diagnosed with autism and who are at
least 15 years of age and not more than 18 years of age. The
homes shall be located in 3 separate geographical areas of the
State. The homes shall operate 7 days per week and shall be
staffed 24 hours per day. The homes shall feature maximum
family involvement based on a service and support agreement
signed by the adolescent's family and the provider. An eligible
service provider: (i) must have a minimum of 5 years experience
serving individuals with autism residentially and have
successfully supported individuals with challenging behaviors;
(ii) must demonstrate that staff have equal experience in this
regard; and (iii) must have a full-time Board-Certified

Behavior Analyst on staff.

(b) The provider shall ensure that the staff at each home receives appropriate training in matters that include, but need not be limited to, the following: behavior analysis, skill training, and other methodologies of teaching such as discreet trial and picture exchange communication system.

(c) The homes shall provide therapeutic and other support services to the adolescents being served there. The therapeutic curriculum shall be based on the principles of applied behavior analysis.

(d) An agreeable rate shall be established by the Department of Children and Family Services and the Department of Human Services, Developmental Disabilities Division.

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect July 1, 2007.