



Alabama senators push for vote on autism bill

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MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) - Alabama senators are urging a vote on a bill requiring that insurers cover an intensive autism therapy for children.

A bipartisan group of lawmakers Tuesday said the measure deserves a vote before the end of the legislative session later this month.

The legislation would require coverage of applied behavioral analysis therapy, an individualized and pricey treatment that parents say can be life-changing for autistic children.

The House unanimously passed the bill last month but it has since stalled in the Senate amid worries about how much it would cost.

A Senate committee vote on the bill is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon. It will advance to the full Senate if it passes.

Parents with children on the autism spectrum have flooded the statehouse in support of the bill.