

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
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Governor's Olmstead Commission to meet January 12 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota's Olmstead Commission is scheduled to meet in Bismarck on Tuesday, January 12, 2010, from 9 a.m. to noon in the Peace Garden Room at the State Capitol. The public is welcome to attend.

Established by Gov. John Hoeven in 2001, the commission guides state planning efforts that focus on serving people with disabilities in the least restrictive, appropriate setting. The commission's name and purpose are derived from the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs. L.C.*, which addresses discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act and supports community living options for people with disabilities.

Agenda items include a Transition Task Force update, a housing update from the N.D. Housing Finance Agency, an Aging and Disability Resource Center grant update, developments regarding long-term care continuum services from the N.D. Department of Human Services, and Olmstead Workgroup reports. The commission will also receive reports on the N.D. Transit Regionalization Plan (pilot projects) and the Rural Transit Needs Assessment from the N.D. Department of Transportation.

Individuals who need accommodations to participate or who have questions can contact Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or hsteffl@nd.gov, or through Relay ND at 800.366.6888 or 711.

The governor's Health and Human Services Policy Advisor, Tami Wahl, and N.D. Department of Human Services Executive Director, Carol K. Olson, co-chair the commission. Members are appointed by the governor.

A list of members appears on the Boards and Commissions section of the governor's Web site at <http://governor.nd.gov/boards/>. Information about the Olmstead Commission is on-line at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html.

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