

**NEWS RELEASE** | **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** | August 14, 2019

## **Autism Task Force to meet August 19 to discuss legislation, behavior analyst licensing and education for stakeholders**

BISMARCK, N.D. – North Dakota’s Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force will meet Monday, August 19, from 1 to 4:45 p.m. Central Time to discuss legislation that will enhance some autism services administered by the North Dakota Department of Human Services and change behavior analyst licensing requirements. Members will also hear updates on the recent autism spectrum disorder survey, education and training opportunities for stakeholders, service utilization and expenditures, state plan workgroup efforts and other topics.

The task force meeting is open to the public and will be held via Skype video conference originating from Great River Energy’s Fort Union Room East in Bismarck. Attendees should enter the Great River Energy building through the public entrance on the north side. Individuals unable to attend via Skype can join by conference call at 701-328-0950, passcode 42896467#.

The meeting agenda is available online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/publicnotice/index.html).

People who need accommodations to participate should contact Krista Fremming prior to the meeting at 701-328-2342, toll-free 800-755-2719, 711 (TTY) or [krfremming@nd.gov](mailto:krfremming@nd.gov).

The legislature created the task force in 2009; members are appointed by the governor. The task force is responsible for reviewing early intervention and family support services that enable individuals with autism spectrum disorder to live at home or in community settings, and programs helping individuals with autism spectrum disorder to transition from school-based settings to adult services and workforce development programs. In addition, the task force monitors the provision of services, and reviews, amends and updates the state plan to better meet the needs of individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

The department provides information about its autism spectrum disorder services online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/index.html). Task force information is online at [www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html](http://www.nd.gov/dhs/autism/taskforce.html).

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