

Dear Senators, Assemblymen and Assemblywomen,

The Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders would like extend gratitude to legislators for serving our community.

The Nevada Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders was created through Executive Order by Governor Jim Gibbons on November 19, 2008 with the mission to “provide leadership, oversight and legislative advocacy in support of Nevadans living with Autism Spectrum Disorders.”

AUTISM

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention states “Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a developmental disability that can cause significant social, communication and behavioral challenges.”

Autism Speaks states “Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication.”

PREVALENCE

The prevalence of Autism has increased substantially since 2000 with the prevalence being 1 in 150 children. “In 2021, the CDC reported that approximately 1 in 44 children in the U.S. is diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and according to 2018 data 1 in 27 boys identified with autism and 1 in 116 girls identified with autism.”

ADULTS

Autism Speaks states that “Over the next decade, an estimated 707,000 to 1,116,000 teens (70,700 to 111,600 each year) will enter adulthood and age out of school based autism services.”

LEGISLATION

Over the years, the Commission has worked closely with numerous legislators to implement change as the needs of the Autism community evolve.

During the 2021 legislation session, the Commission supported Senate Bill 96 which increased the rate for technicians that provide direct behavioral services.

The Commission hopes to continue advocate for the autism community alongside legislators.