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## **COMMISSION ON AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING – POLICY**

### **MEETING NOTICE**

Date and Time of Meeting: Friday, March 28, 2025  
10:00AM

### **MINUTES**

1. **Roll Call, Opening Statement:**

Members Present: Stephanie Chung, Anna Marie Binder, Steven Cohen, Dora Schwartz, Alan Glatts, Dalia Gonzalez,

Members Excused Absent: Ralph Sacrison, Dennis McGee

Members Unexcused Absent: Dennis McGee

Guests:

Staff: Carole Hanley, Autumn Blattman, & Wendy Thornley

2. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comments telephonically, dial +1 775-321-6111. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter 433009539# Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. People making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Samantha D'Ambrosio-Garcia: Read a public comment from Korri Ward that had already been sent in an email to the members. The subcommittee was established to assist the Commission in the performance of its duties. The Commission assigns task to the subcommittees. The purpose of the subcommittee is outlined on the ASDS website, and that purpose follows the current strategic plan. It reiterated the four legislative bills that the subcommittee was charged with reviewing and for data to be collected related to funding and insurance and make recommendations to the full Commission upon requests of the full Commission.

Anna Marie Binder: It is the intention of the subcommittee to revise send to the whole Council. Upon not being tasked with specific bills to work on, from the full commission, this

subcommittee chose the top five autism kind of specific bills to put on the subcommittee agenda. Two bills have popped up for hearing that they couldn't get on this agenda, which were additionally huge for their autism communities. The subcommittee had wanted to have an extra meeting to work on legislative matters. Many of the subcommittee members have been thoroughly attending all funding meetings and budget meetings.

This subcommittee is following the goals etc. of their purpose and the Legislative Session and are really going above and beyond to provide advocacy and opportunities to the Community first.

Diana Collins: Requested information regarding the issues being discussed.

Steven Cohen: Due to the months-long transition of ADSD staff who support the Commission and its subcommittees, some records and recordings are not available. A public records request is currently pending. During the 2023 Legislative Session, there was no guidance from ADSD on who had authority to speak on behalf of the Commission. He believes the bylaws were changed in 2023 and feels that those changes were deficient.

Dora Schwartz: As a person with Autism, feels that over the last eight years, this commission has done very little. These pieces should have been done nearly a decade ago and the language is horrible. Dora is concerned about undiagnosed adults as well. Dora has a hard time finding help that is needed and is concerned about what the future holds.

Anna Marie Binder: Was appointed two years ago and this subcommittee began meeting in November and so missed the Interim Legislative session. She is concerned with what is being not being accomplished in the current, regular Legislative Session. She feels unsupported by the Full Commission in her efforts regarding legislative efforts. She complimented the ADSD support staff.

Diana Collins: This sounds very complicated and tense. Suggested that it might not be in compliance discussing this issue. Felt that it was probably best to adjourn the meeting for now in regard to the question. The subcommittee has authority to present issues to the full committee and then the full committee has to take a vote on that.

Eve Eriksson: Was concerned that a statement made by the full Commission's Chair, during a legislative hearing, purported to represent the full Commission. Was also concerned about the amount of work being done by the full Commission and by the seemingly supportive words from the full Commission Chair in support of teachers instead of the Autism Community.

3. **For Possible Action:** Discussion and Approval of the February 21, 2025, Draft Minutes.

Steven Cohen motioned to approve the draft minutes with minor corrections to the spelling of a name and adding a last name. Allen Glatz seconded. The members voted and the motion carried.

4. **For Discussion and Possible Action:**

Legislative updates, discussions, possible approvals and transmittals of proposed position statements/letters of support, opposition, or neutral regarding the following 83rd Legislative Session bills concerning or potentially concerning Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) access to care.

Discussion to include, without limitation, discrepancies between relevant, existing NRS/NACs and proposed bills (most notably, AB 6), as well as community outreach results from Committee Member, Eve Eriksson.

AB 6 - Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) sponsored bill, by and through the Assembly Committee on Health and Human Services (HHS). Seeks to create a complementary program to the Autism Treatment Assistance Program (ATAP) specific to Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).

This will go back to the full Commission.

Steven Cohen motioned that it would go back to the full Commission with the intent of final transmittal in time for Ways and Means and then subsequently Senate, HHS, and Finance.

Meghan Brascia seconded. The members voted and the motion carried.

SB 140 - Senator Ohrenschall sponsored bill. Seeks to expand the Detention Alternatives to Autistic Youth (DAAY) Court to cover additional disabilities. The full Commission did not get to this bill. The subcommittee made a few minor changes to their letter.

Allen Glatts motioned to accept the letter with the edits. Steven Cohen seconded. The members voted and the motion carried.

SB 174 - Senator Ohrenschall sponsored bill. Seeks to permit Registered Behavior Technicians (RBTs) and related ASD clinically certified professionals into school districts.

Steven Cohen motioned to refer the letter with the changes discussed to the full Commission and authorize the Chair to work with staff before it goes before the full Commission. Allen Glatts seconded. The members voted and the motion carried.

SB 257 - Senator Dondero Loop sponsored bill. Seeks to provide better diagnostic criteria for ASD.

SB 380 - Senator Ohrenschall sponsored bill. Seeks to provide law enforcement training concerning ASD.

AB 169 - Assemblyman Yeager sponsored bill. Seeks to provide insurance coverage for stuttering speech therapies.

AB 340 - Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services (JISC HHS) sponsored bill, by and through the Assembly Committee on HHS. Instead referred to Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor (C&L). Seeks to provide insurance coverage for screening assessments and related access to care items.

Steven Cohen: Gave the status of the above-mentioned bills.

Diana Collins: The email that the full Commission Chair sent prior to this meeting cannot be discussed due to it not being on this subcommittee's current agenda. She will have an offline conversation with Anna Marie Binder and Steven Cohen.

Carole Hanley: The ADSD staff will attend the next, regularly scheduled full Commission meeting.

4. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Discussion and approval of short form ASD resource guide for transmittal to the full Commission for final approval and publication on the Commission's Website maintained by ADSD.
  
5. **Public Comment:** (No action may be taken upon a matter raised under public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an action item. To provide public comment telephonically, dial [1 775-321-6111]. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter [221 090 796 333]. Comments will be limited to three minutes per person. Persons making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.)

Carole Hanley: The ADSD staff will attend the next, regularly scheduled full Commission meeting.

6. **Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm

**AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:**

Notice of this meeting was posted at the following Aging and Disability Services Office at 1550 E. College Parkway, Carson City, NV. 89706. Notice of this meeting was posted on the Internet through the Nevada Aging and Disability Services Division website at <https://adsd.nv.gov> and Nevada Public Notices website at <https://notice.nv.gov>