

Second Regular Session
Sixty-seventh General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R10-1014.01 Debbie Haskins

SJR10-027

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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Senate Committees

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 10-027

101 CONCERNING THE ROLE OF THE COLORADO DEVELOPMENTAL
102 DISABILITIES COUNCIL IN FACILITATING COLLABORATION
103 AMONG STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SYSTEM FOR PERSONS WITH
104 DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

1 WHEREAS, In 2008, the General Assembly created the Colorado
2 Autism Commission to identify existing services and gaps in services in
3 Colorado for people with Autism Spectrum Disorders; review services
4 provided by other states and identify promising practices; examine issues
5 affecting the efficient delivery and coordination of services for people
6 with Autism Spectrum Disorders; and report to the General Assembly;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, The Colorado Autism Commission found that the
9 long-term needs of people with Autism Spectrum Disorders are common
10 to all people with developmental disabilities, and the array of services and
11 supports required by people with Autism Spectrum Disorders are also
12 needed by other Coloradans with developmental disabilities; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 WHEREAS, Implementation of the recommendations established
2 by the Colorado Autism Commission would improve the lives of all
3 people with developmental disabilities; and

4 WHEREAS, The first recommendation of the Colorado Autism
5 Commission concerns the establishment of a formal and sustainable
6 mechanism to implement plans to integrate, coordinate, strengthen, and
7 expand services for people with developmental disabilities; and

8 WHEREAS, The Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council,
9 mandated by the federal "Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill
10 of Rights Act", Public Law 106-402, is funded and charged to:

11 (1) Engage in advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change
12 activities that are consistent with the purpose described in 42 U.S.C.
13 15001 section 101 (b) of the federal "Developmental Disabilities
14 Assistance and Bill of Rights Act" and the policy described in 42 U.S.C.
15 15001 section 101 (c) of the federal "Developmental Disabilities
16 Assistance and Bill of Rights Act"; and

17 (2) Contribute to a coordinated, consumer- and family-centered,
18 consumer- and family-directed, comprehensive system of community
19 services, individualized supports, and other forms of assistance that
20 enable people with developmental disabilities to exercise
21 self-determination and to be independent, productive, and integrated into
22 all facets of community life; and

23 WHEREAS, The Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council is
24 required, by federal law and by section 27-10.5-203, Colorado Revised
25 Statutes, to include in its membership representatives of the principal
26 state agencies involved in service design, funding, and delivery of
27 services and supports to people with developmental disabilities; the
28 university centers for excellence in developmental disabilities education,
29 research, and service; non-governmental agencies and private non-profit
30 entities concerned with services for people with developmental
31 disabilities; family members; and self-advocates; and

32 WHEREAS, The Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council,
33 by virtue of its federal and state charge and its membership, is the formal
34 and sustainable mechanism envisioned by the Colorado Autism
35 Commission; and

36 WHEREAS, In this time of significant budget cuts, revenue
37 shortfalls, and economic uncertainties, it is not possible for the General
38 Assembly to fund a separate entity for the purpose of providing oversight
39 for implementing the recommendations of the Colorado Autism
40 Commission; now, therefore,

41 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-seventh General Assembly*
42 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

43 (1) That the General Assembly strongly urges and requests that
44 the Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council discuss, support, and
45 advance the purposes and recommendations of the report of the Colorado

1 Autism Commission on behalf of all people in Colorado with
2 developmental disabilities and serve as the formal and sustainable
3 mechanism to implement plans to integrate, coordinate, strengthen, and
4 expand services for people with developmental disabilities;

5 (2) That the General Assembly declares that it is imperative for
6 sound policy development, now more than ever, that all stakeholders,
7 including self-advocates, families, community centered boards, service
8 providers, advocacy organizations, and departments of state government,
9 work together to find common ground on recommending changes in
10 policy or statutes or both affecting people with developmental disabilities
11 and to ensure the realization of the vision that all Coloradans with
12 developmental disabilities have ready access to the services and supports
13 they need to be safe, educated, healthy, productive, and able to pursue
14 happy and fulfilling lives.

15 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
16 to the Governor, to the members of the Colorado Developmental
17 Disabilities Council, and to the Executive Director of the Department of
18 Human Services.