

Sixty-first  
Legislative Assembly  
of North Dakota

**HOUSE BILL NO.**

Introduced by

Representative Pinkerton

1 A BILL for an Act to provide for the creation of an autism task force.

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

3 **SECTION 1. Autism task force - Appointment - Duties - Annual report.**

4 1. The autism task force consists of the following eleven members appointed by the  
5 governor.

6 a. The state health officer, or the officer's designee;

7 b. A pediatrician with expertise in the area of autism;

8 c. A psychiatrist with expertise in the area of autism;

9 d. A psychologist with expertise in the area of autism;

10 e. A college of education faculty member with expertise in the area of autism;

11 f. An occupational therapist;

12 g. A representative of a health insurance company doing business in this state;

13 h. A representative of a licensed residential care facility for individuals with  
14 autism;

15 i. A parent of a child with autism;

16 j. A family member of an adult with autism;

17 k. A member of the legislative assembly.

18 2. The task force shall meet at the call of the chairman, at least quarterly. The task  
19 force shall examine early intervention services, family support services that would  
20 enable an individual with autism to remain in the least restrictive home-based or  
21 community setting, programs transitioning an individual with autism from a  
22 school-based setting to adult day programs and work programs, the cost of  
23 providing services, and the nature and extent of federal resources that can be  
24 directed to the provision of services for individuals with autism.

- 1           3. The task force shall develop a state autism plan and present the plan to the  
2           governor and the legislative council before July 1, 2010. Thereafter, the task force  
3           shall continue to review and periodically update or otherwise amend the state plan  
4           so that it best serves the needs of individuals with autism. The task force shall  
5           provide an annual report to the governor and the legislative council regarding the  
6           status of the state autism plan.