

Autism Spectrum Disorder Advisory Council

MEETING MINUTES

Legislative Subcommittee

Meeting Date	Meeting Time	Meeting Location
May 11, 2026	2:00pm-3:00pm	Zoom

Member Name and Attendance

ASD Advisory Body Members					
Jimnabs Miller, ASDAC Chair		Meghan Gallagher, Member	R	Patrick Heick, Member	R
Yana Razumnaya, ASDAC Chair		Carole Ryan-Hanlon, Member		Marcia Eckerd, Member	
Melissa Hoon, Member		Sarah Schlegel, Member		Christine Faessa, Member	
Kimberly Mearmen, Legislative Chair	R	Julie Wolf, Member		Melissa Paul Perez, Member	
Kari Sassu, Member	R	Lynne Altschuler, Member		Lois Rosenwald, Member	
ASD Supporting Agencies & Other Participants					
Jessica Corneau, ADS BRS	R	Ann Gionet, DPH		Zani Imetovski, OPM	
Bryan Klimkiewicz, CSDE		Tobey Partch-Davies, DRCT	R	Tara Viens, OPM	R
Dorothy Papa-Santini, CSDE		Christine Weston, DSS		Susan Stange, DSS	
Stephanie Bozak, DCF		MaryBeth Miller, OEC		Jennifer Krom, Carelon	R
Krista Ostaszewski, DDS		Kolleen Kerski, OEC			
Jennifer Abbatemarco, DMHAS		Judy Dowd, OPM			
<i>Attendance Key: R = attended remotely, I = attended in-person, X = absent</i>					

	Agenda	Responsible Person(s)
1.	Welcome & Introductions	Kim Mearman
	Call to Order	
2.	Review & Approve Meeting Minutes	Kim Mearman
	Motion to approve minutes made by Kim and Patrick seconded. April meeting minutes are approved.	
3.	Legislative Session Recap	Tara Viens
	<p>Over 200 bills passed in this short session</p> <p>ASDAC Assigned: SB 383 Advise Office of Workforce Strategy on career pathways in human services.</p> <p>Disability Related Legislation: HB 5447 Feasibility study on PRTF level of care for those with IDD/ASD HB 5557 DDS must create a plan to redefine intellectual disability HB 5375 Feasibility of creating a captive insurance company for non-profit liability insurance HB 5485 Study supportive decision making HB 5561 DSS will have to create a Medicaid rate review plan SB 87 Will establish a non-profit advisory board</p>	
5.	New Business	Kim Mearman
	<p>Discussion on Priorities for 2027</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to ABA – no age limit on ABA coverage in private or state insurance plans <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Need to consider current waitlists and infrastructure capacity 	

2. ASD Waiver – ensure all current available slots are filled, recruit providers, increased rates and additional waitlist capacity
3. Workforce Development – incentive for people to become autism competent in all workforce domains
4. Behavioral Health Access - remove exclusion criteria due to ASD diagnosis
5. Housing Committee Priority – Hold for housing subcommittee recommendation
6. Partner with other advocacy groups on shared priorities

Eligibility Determination Follow Up – discuss with ASDAC to see if there are outstanding questions and if we want SSA to do a presentation, what is the role for ASDAC and do we have a specific ask? How can we assist DSS with stakeholder input on work requirements?

Next meeting will be held on Monday June 8th 2026 at 2:00pm

8.	Adjourn	Kim Mearman
	2:49 pm	

DRAFT