

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 86th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2007  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2739

5 By: Representative D. Johnson  
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7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE THE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON  
10 AUTISM; TO PROVIDE FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ITS  
11 MEMBERS; TO DESCRIBE ITS MISSION AND  
12 RESPONSIBILITIES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
13

## Subtitle

15 AN ACT TO CREATE THE LEGISLATIVE TASK  
16 FORCE ON AUTISM.  
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19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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21 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 10, Chapter 3 is amended to add an  
22 additional subchapter to read as follows:

23 10-3-2401. Title.

24 This subchapter shall be known as the "Arkansas Legislative Task Force  
25 on Autism".  
26

27 10-3-2402. Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism Creation.

28 (a) The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism is created.

29 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

30 (1) One (1) member who is an employee of the Division of Medical  
31 Services of the Department of Health and Human Services appointed by the  
32 Director of the Department of Health and Human Services;

33 (2) One (1) member who is a Board Certified Behavior Analyst  
34 appointed by the Arkansas Board of Examiners in Psychology;

35 (3) One (1) member to represent Easter Seals appointed by Easter  
36 Seals Arkansas;



1           (4) One (1) member who is an employee of the Department of  
 2 Education who works regularly in the area of special education appointed by  
 3 the Director of the Department of Education;

4           (5) One (1) member to represent the insurance industry appointed  
 5 by the Arkansas Life and Health Insurance Guaranty Association;

6           (6) One (1) member who is a physician who regularly works with  
 7 autistic patients appointed by the Arkansas Medical Society;

8           (7) One (1) member who is a clinical geneticist appointed by the  
 9 Arkansas Children’s Hospital;

10          (8) One (1) member to represent the Arkansas Children’s Hospital  
 11 Research Institute appointed by the Arkansas Children’s Hospital;

12          (9) One (1) member who regularly works on public health policy  
 13 appointed by the Dean of the University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public  
 14 Service;

15          (10) One (1) member who is an attorney who regularly works with  
 16 children who have special needs and require special education appointed by  
 17 the Arkansas Bar Association;

18          (11) Two (2) members who are parents or guardians of children  
 19 with autism appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

20          (12) Two (2) members who are parents or guardians of children  
 21 with autism appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

22          (c)(1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall call the  
 23 first meeting within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this  
 24 subchapter.

25          (2) At the first meeting, the members of the task force shall  
 26 elect from the membership a chair and other officers as needed for the  
 27 transaction of its business.

28          (3)(A) The task force shall conduct its meetings in Pulaski  
 29 County at the State Capitol.

30          (B) Meetings shall be held at least one (1) time every  
 31 three (3) months but may occur more often at the call of the chair.

32          (d) If a vacancy occurs on the task force, the vacancy shall be filled  
 33 by the same process as the original appointment.

34          (e) The task force shall establish rules and procedures for conducting  
 35 its business.

36          (f) A majority of the members of the task force shall constitute a

1 quorum for transacting any business of the task force.

2 (g) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff for the  
3 task force.

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5 10-3-2403. Duties.

6 (a) The Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism shall:

7 (1) Examine how the State of Arkansas responds to autism and  
8 autism spectrum disorders;

9 (2) Determine the best practices to treat autism and autism  
10 spectrum disorders;

11 (3) Recommend more efficient methods for treating autism and  
12 autism spectrum disorders;

13 (4) Recommend how to obtain more federal funds for treating  
14 autism and autism spectrum disorders and providing special education to  
15 children with autism and autism spectrum disorders; and

16 (5) Recommend to the General Assembly specific changes to the  
17 law that will improve treatment of autism and autism spectrum disorders and  
18 improve the provision of special education to children with autism and autism  
19 spectrum disorders.

20 (b) On or before August 31, 2008, the task force shall provide the  
21 legislature with a written explanation of the recommended legislative  
22 changes.

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