

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 21-66 — sHB 6320
Human Services Committee

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

SUMMARY: This act (1) adds a third chairperson to the Autism Spectrum Disorder council, to be elected by council members, and (2) requires both elected chairs to be chosen from the six appointed council members who are either individuals with autism or parents or guardians of individuals with autism. Under prior law, the council had two chairpersons, one of whom was elected from the members at large. Unchanged by the act, the other chairperson is the Department of Social Services (DSS) commissioner or her designee.

By law, the Autism Spectrum Disorder Council consists of 25 members, including persons with the disorder, their parents or guardians, advocates, and service providers. The council advises DSS on policies and programs for people with autism spectrum disorder, services provided by the department's Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, and implementing the autism feasibility study's recommendations. It may also recommend policy and program changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021