

**NO FISCAL IMPACT****Drafting Number:** LLS 09-0208**Date:** January 8, 2009**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Labuda**Bill Status:** House Health and Human Services**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

**TITLE:** CONCERNING REPRESENTATION BY PERSONS IMPACTED BY A DISABILITY IN STATE WORK GROUPS THAT HAVE A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING ISSUES THAT AFFECT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

**Summary of Legislation**

The bill mandates that a majority of the voting membership on state boards and commissions that oversee programs affecting people with disabilities must be representatives of the disability population served by the program. This representation may be provided by a person with a disability, a family member of a person with a disability, a member of an advocacy group for persons with the disability addressed by the commission, or a combination thereof. Specifically, these representation requirements apply to the following boards and commissions:

- State Special Education Advisory Committee
- Colorado Advisory Council for Persons with Disabilities
- Colorado Traumatic Brain Injury Board
- Colorado Autism Commission
- Colorado Commission for Individuals who are Blind or Visually Impaired
- Colorado Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Division of Behavioral Health Advisory Board
- Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council

The bill also requires the Department of Human Services to seek input and participation from people served by, family members of, and members of advocacy groups for people served by the Family Support Services Program and the Early Intervention Program. The Department of Transportation is also required to seek such input concerning the transportation needs of people with disabilities. The bill will take effect on signature of the Governor or becoming law without his signature.

**Assessment**

The bill is assessed at no fiscal impact. The requirement for representation for persons with disabilities, their families, and advocacy groups may alter the composition of existing boards and commissions, but will not significantly affect their operational costs. There may be some additional costs associated with accommodating more people with disabilities, but it is likely current state and federal law already require that such accommodations be made. Such costs are expected to be minimal and can be absorbed using existing resources.

**Departments Contacted**

Human Services      Transportation