A bill for an act

relating to health; creating an Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force; providing appointments; requiring development of a statewide strategic plan.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **MINNESOTA AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER TASK FORCE.**

Subdivision 1. **Members.** (a) The Autism Spectrum Disorder Task Force is composed of 19 members, appointed as follows:

(1) two members of the senate, one appointed by the majority leader and one appointed by the minority leader;

(2) two members of the house of representatives, one from the majority party, appointed by the speaker of the house, and one from the minority party, appointed by the minority leader;

(3) two members who are family members of individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), one of whom shall be appointed by the majority leader of the senate, and one of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house;

(4) one member appointed by the Minnesota chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics who is a developmental behavioral pediatrician;

(5) one member appointed by the Minnesota Academy of Family Medicine who is a family practice physician;

(6) one member appointed by the Minnesota Psychological Association who is a neuropsychologist;

(7) one member appointed by the majority leader of the senate who represents a minority autism community;

(8) one member representing the directors of public school student support services;

(9) one member appointed by the Minnesota Council of Health Plans;

(10) three members who represent autism advocacy groups, two of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the house and one of whom shall be appointed by the majority leader of the senate; and

(11) one member appointed by each of the respective commissioners of the following departments: education, employment and economic development, health, and human services.

(b) Appointments must be made by September 1, 2011. The senate member appointed by the majority leader of the senate shall convene the first meeting of the task force no later than October 1, 2011. The task force shall elect a chair from among the members at the first meeting. The task force shall meet at least six times per year.

(c) The Legislative Coordinating Commission shall provide meeting space for the task force. The Departments of Education, Employment and Economic Development, Health, and Human Services shall provide assistance to the task force.

Subd. 2. **Duties.** (a) The task force shall develop an autism spectrum disorder statewide strategic plan that focuses on improving awareness, early diagnosis, and intervention and on ensuring delivery of treatment and services for individuals diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder, including the coordination and accessibility of cost-effective treatments and services throughout the individual's lifetime.

(b) The task force shall coordinate with existing efforts relating to autism spectrum disorders at the Departments of Education, Employment and Economic Development, Health, and Human Services and at the University of Minnesota and other agencies and organizations as the task force deems appropriate.

Subd. 3. **Report.** The task force shall submit its strategic plan to the legislature by January 15, 2013. The task force shall continue to provide assistance with the implementation of the strategic plan, as approved by the legislature, and shall submit a progress report by January 15, 2014, and by January 15, 2015, on the status of implementation of the strategic plan, including any draft legislation necessary for implementation.

Subd. 4. **Expiration.** The task force shall expire June 30, 2015, unless extended by law.

EFFECTIVE DATE. This section is effective July 1, 2011, and expires June 30, 2015.