EXHIBIT C

ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senator Justin Boyd
Senate Chair

Representative Denise Jones-Ennett
House Chair

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON AUTISM

August 31, 2026

The Honorable Bart Hester
President Pro Tempore
Arkansas State Senate
500 Woodlane Street, Suite 320
Little Rock, AR 72201

The Honorable Brian S. Evans
Speaker of the House
Arkansas House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 350
Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Hester and Representative Evans:

In accordance with Act 1272 of 2009, the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism is submitting the attached memorandum to report the recommended legislative changes that the task force recommends to the 95th General Assembly.

Please contact us if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

Justin Boyd/kw
Senator Justin Boyd, Chair

Denise Jones Ennett/kw
Representative Denise Jones Ennett, Chair

State Capitol, Room 315 Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 Phone (501) 682-1937 Fax (501) 682-3072 TDD (501) 682-1940

ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senator Justin Boyd
Senate Chair

Representative Denise Jones-Ennett
House Chair

LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE ON AUTISM

MEMORANDUM

To: President Pro Tempore Bart Hester and Speaker of the House Brian Evans

From: Senator Justin Boyd and Representative Denise Jones-Ennett, Co-Chairs, Arkansas Legislative Task Force

Date: August 31, 2026

RE: Report of the Legislative Task Force on Autism

Pursuant to the provisions of Act 1272 of 2009, we are submitting the Arkansas Legislative Task Force on Autism report for your review.

The task force worked to identify issues affecting individuals with autism spectrum disorder and recommends the following legislative priorities for consideration by the 95th General Assembly:

- Expand the pool of qualified autism evaluators by recognizing Licensed Psychological Practitioners (LPPs) for Autism Waiver and Community and Employment Supports (CES) Waiver eligibility determinations;
- Improve access to specialized, medically supervised autism services for individuals with complex behavioral and medical needs;
- Expand individualized housing options through the CES Waiver for individuals with developmental disabilities who are not adequately served in traditional group home settings;
- Reduce financial barriers to additional autism services by exploring Medicaid coverage and reimbursement for supportive care that is currently paid out of pocket by families;
- Strengthen early crisis intervention and multi-system coordination among schools, behavioral health professionals, and guardians to prevent unnecessary hospitalization, placement loss, or behavioral escalation;
- Update the task force's membership provisions by removing duplicate and outdated positions and revising the vacancy provisions; and
- Expand the number of slots available through the Autism Waiver when funds are available at the Department of Human Services for that purpose.

Please contact either of us if additional information is needed.