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Governance Process Policy

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The Commission is appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate and operates under the authority of the South Carolina Intellectual Disability, Related Disabilities, Head Injuries, and Spinal Cord Injuries Act of 1993.

The Commission of the South Carolina Disabilities and Special Needs will debate and establish policies that create a governance model that promotes the Commissioners ability to govern the operation of the Department (S.C. Code Ann. § 44-20-220). The Commission's Governance Model will create a vision, assist in securing resources, establish benchmarks for performance and monitor them, and be accountable to key stakeholders.

The Commission will approve and adopt Bylaws to regulate its rules and procedures.

Robert's Rules of Order shall be the standard of procedure for the transaction of business at each meeting of the Commission. The Commission shall also comply with the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) in the conduct of its meetings. FOIA supersedes in situations where a conflict may exist with these By-Laws/Robert's Rules of Order.

Debate amongst Commissioners will be facilitated by following Robert's Rules of Order. When speaking with the media, the views of the Commission may be represented by the Chairperson, the State Director, or other agreed upon person designated by the Commission or State Director. Individual Commissioner's rights to speak out publicly may not be denied due to their position

on the Commission; however, Commissioners are encouraged to clarify to the media that they are speaking as private citizens when expressing their personal views.

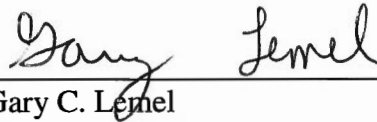
No Commission Policy, Department Directive, Procedure or Regulation shall be interpreted to limit Commission members' rights as citizens or limit in any way their authority given by the governor or this Commission.

Commissioners may seek information from any staff, but are precluded from giving any directive to any staff. Commissioners may ask staff presenters at Commission meetings for additional information or clarification. Staff presentations at Commission meetings will not dominate and exceed time allowed to the Commission for discussion and debate. Staff will not pursue legislative initiatives without the Commission's input.

Subject to the supervision, direction, and control of the Commission, the State Director shall administer the policies and regulations established by the Commission (S.C. Code Ann. § 44-20-230).



Barry D. Malphrus
Vice Chairman



Gary C. Lemel
Chairman