



**DISABILITY LAW
COLORADO™**

Protecting the rights of Coloradans of all ages since 1976

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Vote YES on HB19-1063

February 1, 2019

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Disability Law Colorado ("DLC") is a Colorado nonprofit organization established to protect and promote the legal and human rights of persons with disabilities. It serves as the federally-mandated and state-designated Protection and Advocacy System for people with disabilities as authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000, the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals with Mental Illness Act, and the Protection and Advocacy for Individuals Rights section of the Rehabilitation Act. Since Disability Law Colorado was founded in 1976, it has represented nearly 20,000 individuals with disabilities and has assisted more than 65,000 individuals with disabilities in advocating for themselves.

Disability Law Colorado strongly supports HB19-1063. As Colorado's Protection and Advocacy System for people with disabilities we understand and value the importance of providing protective services to at-risk adults. HB19-1063 allows county human services departments of adult protective service and child protective to share information that is necessary to assess safety and risk and provide appropriate services. We believe the information that may be shared under this bill is appropriately limited and targeted to necessary information. Disability Law Colorado also believes that at-risk adults and, when proper, their guardians should be allowed to view their own APS records. The restriction on this that currently exists in statute is unnecessary.

HB19-1063 provides common sense updates to the statute and we urge you to vote yes.