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## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** DDSN Provider Partners and Stakeholders  
**FROM:** Beverly A. H. Buscemi, Ph.D.  
State Director  
*Beverly A. H. Buscemi PMO*  
**RE:** DDSN Provider Partners and Stakeholders Notification  
**DATE:** February 8, 2017

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The SC House of Representatives and the SC Senate are charged by Act 121 of 204 with conducting legislative oversight studies and investigations of all state agencies at least once every seven years. DDSN is one of four state agencies selected this year by the House Legislative Oversight Committee for study in addition to the numerous state agencies previously selected. DDSN has also been selected in the next group of state agencies to undergo the Senate Oversight process. For a brief description of these processes you can go to [www.scstatehouse.gov](http://www.scstatehouse.gov), and look under "Citizens' Interest."

The Legislative oversight processes will afford legislative members an opportunity to better understand DDSN's mission, organizational structure, state and federal laws and regulations that govern, oversee and direct agency operations and how services are provided and quality is monitored. DDSN's role of providing high quality services and supports to individuals with disabilities and their families is extremely important. Accountability and transparency to stakeholders and citizens is highly valued by DDSN's Commission and myself, as the State Director, and is integrated in all activities of the agency. We look forward to working closely with the House Legislative Oversight Committee and the Office of Senate Oversight to identify strengths and weaknesses of the current system and continue improvement.

While the two legislative oversight processes are focusing on DDSN, the state agency, as part of this process, they may reach out to members of the provider network and other DDSN stakeholders. Legislative staff will likely not ask about specific consumer identifying or protected health information. They are aware of HIPAA and sensitive to confidentiality. However, if this does occur, please communicate with DDSN for guidance and follow HIPAA guidelines.

DDSN will send additional information as the two Legislative Oversight processes progress. Thank you for your participation and assistance in this important review of DDSN.

### **DISTRICT I**

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### **DISTRICT II**

Coastal Center - Phone: 843/873-5750  
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