

LOUISIANA CITIZENS FOR ACTION NOW

Advocating for Louisiana Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

ACTION ALERT - Contact Senate Finance Committee: Restore Funding to DHH



Contact Senate Committee before Friday, May 18th to protect services for people with developmental disabilities.

On Friday, May 11th, the House stripped \$268 Million from the budget (HB1). The bulk of those cuts (\$100 Million in state funds) will come from the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH). This is in addition to the \$57.7 Million cut from DHH by the Appropriations Committee.

If not restored by the Senate, these cuts will result in:

- 9.7% Medicaid provider rate cut
- Elimination of EarlySteps
- Elimination of Early Childhood Supports and Services
- Elimination of State Funded Personal Care Assistance Program
- Closure of Central State Hospital
- Not filling 168 NOW slots created through attrition
- Reductions/eliminations in numerous other DHH programs/services.

Contact (call, email, and/or write) the committee member(s) in your region and Chairman Donahue if you want to protect services for people with developmental disabilities.

Contact Chairman and Members of Senate Finance in Your Region

To call a Senator at the Capitol: **225-342-2040**

Senator Jack Donahue

(Chairman)

3030 East Causeway Approach

Mandeville, LA 70448

donahuej@legis.la.gov

Senator Norby Chabert

(Vice-Chairman)

P.O. Box 2417

Houma, LA 70361

chabertn@legis.la.gov

Senator R.L. "Bret" Allain, II

600 Main Street, Suite 1

Franklin, LA 70538

allainb@legis.la.gov

Senator Sherri Smith Buffington

9973 Mansfield Road

Keithville, LA 71047

smithbuffington@legis.la.gov

Senator Dan Claitor

7520 Perkins Road, Suite 160
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
claitord@legis.la.gov

Senator Ronnie Johns

1011 Lakeshore Drive, Suite 515
Lake Charles, LA 70601
johnsr@legis.la.gov

Senator Eric LaFleur

P.O. Box 617
Ville Platte, LA 70586
lafleure@legis.la.gov

Senator Fred H. Mills, Jr.

800 S. Lewis St., Suite 203
New Iberia, LA 70560
millsf@legis.la.gov

Senator Edwin R. Murray

1540 N. Broad St.
New Orleans, LA 70119
murraye@legis.la.gov

Senator Gregory Tarver

1024 Pierre Avenue
Shreveport, LA 71103
tarverg@legis.la.gov

Senator Mack "Bodi" White

808 O'Neal Lane
Baton Rouge, LA 70816
whitem@legis.la.gov

Sample Letter

Subject line of your email or at the top of your letter:

Restore cuts to DHH made by the House and Appropriations Committee!

Include information about yourself and your family member in your letter.

This can be in a few short sentences. You may want to include:

- Your name/the name of the individual with a disability you are advocating for and his/her relationship to you
- The diagnosis or disability of this individual
- How these cuts would affect your family or people you care about

Include this message:

Please restore ALL of the funds to DHH cut by the Appropriations Committee and the House. These funds are needed to provide critical services to our state's most vulnerable population.

Confirm Your Action

Please [reply](#) to this email to let us know you took action

Additional Information

On Friday, the House also voted unanimously in favor of an amendment to HB1, authored by Rep. Harrison, restoring funding for the 168 New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) slots cut by the Appropriations Committee and increasing funding for an additional 50 slots. Unfortunately, the House also passed an amendment by Reps. Geymann and Henry that eliminated all one time money contained in HB1, resulting in significant cuts and the elimination of many critical programs in DHH. Unless these funds are restored by the Senate, the NOW slots will not be filled.

Thanks to the over 230 members who wrote and called your legislators in support of the NOW funding. Your voices were heard!

Let the Senate Finance Committee hear your voices now!

Any Questions?

If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact LaCAN by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below.

Contact LaCAN

Email: laicanadvocates44@yahoo.com

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

Web: <http://www.laicanadvocates.org>

