

LOUISIANA CITIZENS FOR ACTION NOW

Advocating for Louisiana Citizens with Developmental Disabilities

Action Alert - Tell Legislators How Budget Cuts will Affect You!

- More Cuts Possible for Home & Community Services - Action Needed to Restore Funds to DHH's budget and Prevent Additional Cuts
- Call Members of the House in your area if you want to let them know how cuts to DHH will affect you, your family or someone you care about
- Confirm your Action

On Wednesday, May 25th the House approved an amendment to House Bill (HB) 1 that would make an additional \$10 Million in cuts to the Dept. of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and considered cutting an extra \$81 Million, but that amendment narrowly failed to pass.

House leaders have stated that the nearly \$30 Million the Appropriations Committee already cut from DHH in HB1 and this additional \$91 Million would not adversely affect the people who depend on DHH for services.

DHH has stated that if the bill passes in its current form home and community based services such as the cash subsidy program and individual and family support services WILL be reduced or eliminated. Additional cuts WILL result in rate cuts to providers. [Click here](#) to read the affect of cuts from DHH (short version).

Call Members of the House in your area if you want to let them know how these cuts will affect you, your family or someone you care about.

Do this today. The House meets this afternoon.

Call House Members at 225-342-6945.

[Click here](#) to find your representative.

Confirm your Action

Reply to this email to let us know you took action.

Additional Information

Some legislators have told LaCAN members that DHH has the discretion to make the nearly \$30 Million in cuts where they choose and in areas that will not affect services. This is not completely accurate. The Appropriations Committee made specific amendments to HB1, removing specific dollar amounts from each program office (the Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD), Office of Behavioral Health,

DD Council, etc.). DHH only has discretion for \$11.7 million of the total \$30 million of cuts made in House Appropriations Committee amendment #121.

OCDD received a cut of \$4.9 Million and although the categories include "travel, operating services, supplies, acquisitions and other charges," after several years of budget cuts there is certainly not \$4.9 M in administrative overhead that can be eliminated. **"Other charges" includes contracts that provide the cash subsidy program and individual and family support services to families, many of whom are on the waiver waiting list.**

[Click here](#) for a detailed report by DHH on the impact of the Appropriations Committee amendments. **This does NOT include the additional \$91 Million cuts that were proposed on the House Floor on May 25th. DHH has reported those cuts would result in across the board provider rate cuts.**

[Click here](#) to see how representatives voted on the amendment to cut DHH by an additional \$81 Million on the House Floor yesterday. A 'yes' vote was to cut funds to DHH. The amendment failed. You may want to thank those representatives who voted "no."

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 Information

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