



LaCAN

Louisiana Citizens for Action Now

ACTION ALERT - Attend Yellow Shirt Day This Friday If You Support DHH and Waiver Services

On Friday, February 20th, the **Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB)** will meet to review and approve the Governor's plan for mid-year cuts. This plan includes \$13.05 Million in cuts to the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) and a freeze on the filling of new and/or vacant waiver slots. If you think DHH should be prioritized and waiver slots should continue to be filled...

**Attend Yellow Shirt Day
Friday, February 20th
9:00 a.m.
Louisiana State Capitol - Room 5
Baton Rouge**

Arrive early to ensure you get a seat.
Don't forget to wear your yellow LaCAN t-shirt.
Contact your Team Leader for a shirt and/or to find out about carpooling options.

If you have not already done so... There's still time to **call or email members of the JLCB** to share your opinion before they meet. Contact information and help on what to say listed below. Take action by February 19th!

Contact the JLCB Chairman and Committee Members from Your Region

Not sure of your region? Click [here](#) for a map.

Chairman - All Regions

Rep. Jim Fannin, Chairman (318) 259-6620 larep013@legis.la.gov

Region 1

Rep. Wesley Bishop (504) 242-4198 bishop2@legis.la.gov

Rep. Walt Leger III (504) 556-9970 legerw@legis.la.gov

Rep. Helena Moreno (504) 568-2740 morenoh@legis.la.gov

Sen. Edwin Murray (504) 945-0042 murraye@legis.la.gov

Sen. John Alario, Jr. (504) 340-2221 alarioj@legis.la.gov

Rep. Nick Lorusso (504) 483-4711 larep094@legis.la.gov

Region 2

Rep. John Berthelot (225) 647-5646 berthelotj@legis.la.gov

Sen. Sharon Weston Broome (225) 359-9352 lasen15@legis.la.gov

Rep. Franklin Foil (225) 342-6777 foilf@legis.la.gov

Rep. Ted James II (225) 925-4859 james.ted@legis.la.gov

Rep. Patricia Haynes Smith (225) 342-7106 smithp@legis.la.gov

Sen. Mack "Bodi" White (225) 272-1324 whitem@legis.la.gov

Sen. Dan Claitor (225) 765-0206 claitord@legis.la.gov

Region 3

Sen. Norby Chabert (985) 858-2927 chabertn@legis.la.gov

Sen. Bret Allain, II (337) 828-9107 allainb@legis.la.gov

Region 4

Rep. Stuart Bishop	(337) 981-7409	bishops@legis.la.gov
Sen. Fred Mills, Jr	(337) 845-4240	millsf@legis.la.gov
Rep. Jack Montoucet	(337) 783-2999	montoucj@legis.la.gov
Rep. Joel Robideaux	(337) 984-1091	larep045@legis.la.gov
Rep. Ledricka Thierry	(337) 948-0369	thierryl@legis.la.gov
Sen. Eric LaFleur	(337) 363-5019	lafleure@legis.la.gov
Rep. Bob Hensgens	(337) 893-5035	hensgensb@legis.la.gov

Region 5

Rep. James Armes III	(337) 238-7004	armesj@legis.la.gov
Rep. Brett Geymann	(337) 491-2315	larep035@legis.la.gov
Rep. Bob Hensgens	(337) 893-5035	hensgensb@legis.la.gov
Sen. Ronnie Johns	(337) 491-2016	johnsr@legis.la.gov
Rep. Chuck Kleckley	(337) 475-3016	larep036@legis.la.gov
Sen. Blade Morrish	(337) 824-3979	morrishd@legis.la.gov

Region 6

Rep. James Armes III	(337) 238-7004	armesj@legis.la.gov
Sen. Gerald Long	(318) 628-5799	longg@legis.la.gov
Sen. Neil Riser	(318) 649-0977	riscn@legis.la.gov
Sen. Francis Thompson	(318) 878-9408	thompsf@legis.la.gov

Region 7

Rep. Henry Burns	(318) 949-2463	burnsh@legis.la.gov
Rep. Roy Burrell	(318) 676-7137	larep002@legis.la.gov
Rep. Jim Morris	(318) 995-6852	larep001@legis.la.gov
Rep. Alan Seabaugh	(318) 676-7990	seabaugh@legis.la.gov
Sen. Gregory Tarver, Sr.	(318) 227-1499	tarverg@legis.la.gov
Sen. Sheri Smith Buffington	(318) 687-4820	smithbuffington@legis.la.gov
Sen. Gerald Long	(318) 628-5799	longg@legis.la.gov

Region 8

Rep. Bubba Chaney	(318) 728-5875	chaneyb@legis.la.gov
Rep. Jim Fannin	(318) 259-6620	larep013@legis.la.gov
Sen. Neil Riser	(318) 649-0977	riscn@legis.la.gov
Sen. Francis Thompson	(318) 878-9408	thompsf@legis.la.gov
Sen. Michael Walsworth	(318) 340-6453	walsworthm@legis.la.gov

Region 9

Sen. Jack Donahue	(985) 727-7949	donahuej@legis.la.gov
Rep. J. Rogers Pope	(225) 667-3588	poper@legis.la.gov
Rep. John Schroder, Sr.	(985) 893-6262	schrodej@legis.la.gov
Sen. Mack "Bodi" White	(225) 272-1324	whitem@legis.la.gov

Region 10

Rep. Bryan Adams	(504) 361-6013	adamsb@legis.la.gov
Rep. Robert Billiot	(504) 436-8929	Billiotr@legis.la.gov
Rep. Patrick Connick	(504) 371-0240	connickp@legis.la.gov
Sen. Daniel Martiny	(504) 834-7676	martinyd@legis.la.gov
Rep. Nick Lorusso	(504) 483-4711	larep094@legis.la.gov

What to Say

Let JLCB members know:

- You have heard about the plan to cut DHH by \$13 Million and freeze vacant waiver slots
- If you think DHH should be prioritized in the budget
- If you think waiver services are valuable and how you feel about them being frozen
- How this decision will affect you, your family, or others you care about (Are you or a loved one on the 10-year waiting list for waiver services? Have you or a loved one benefited from waiver services and want others to have this same opportunity?)

Confirm Your Action



Don't forget to let us know that you took action!

[Reply](#) to this email or notify your [LaCAN Leader](#) to confirm your action.

Why confirm your action? This helps us to know how effective we are in reaching you with this information and engaging members across our state in advocacy for systems change.

Background Information

During the 2014 Legislative Session, members of the legislature allocated funding for the filling of 1,000 vacant waiver slots and 200 additional New Opportunities Waiver (NOW) slots to help 1,200 of the 13,000 individuals with developmental disabilities who have been waiting the longest on the ever-growing waiver waiting list. The Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) is currently making offers to fill those slots, but the administration has announced that shortfalls in the state budget will change that.

On February 6th, the Governor shared his plan for mid-year budget cuts which include \$60.66 Million in state agency reductions. The Department of Health and Hospitals will take the second largest hit in the amount of \$13.05 Million (22% of the total amount cut) and, as a result, be forced to freeze the filling of new and/or vacant waiver slots. Read the entire deficit reduction plan [here](#).

The Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget (JLCB) must approve the administration's plan on February 20th. **If you think DHH should be a priority in the state budget and waiver slots should continue to be filled, the JLCB needs to hear from you!**

Contact Us

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.

Email: info@lacanadvocates.org

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

Web: www.lacanadvocates.org

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LaCAN is an initiative of the [Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council](#).