

LaCAN

Louisiana Citizens for Action Now

ACTION ALERT - Voice Your Support for DD Services



The House Appropriations Committee will be meeting on April 14th to hear public testimony on the proposed Fiscal Year 2016 State Budget (HB1). Several LaCAN members will testify to represent our group.

If you believe that home and community-based waivers, EarlySteps, and Families Helping Families are vital services that should be prioritized in our state budget, now is the time to take action! There are two ways you can get involved:

Attend Yellow Shirt Day for Public Testimony

Tuesday, April 14th

9:00 a.m. - Room 5

Louisiana State Capitol - Baton Rouge

Arrive early to ensure you get a seat

Don't forget to wear your yellow LaCAN t-shirt

Contact your [LaCAN Leader](#) for a shirt and/or to find out about carpooling options.

Contact Committee Members by April 13th

Committee members need to hear from you! Whether or not you are able to attend the meeting on April 14th, you can call or email committee members to share your story. Contact information and tips for what to say are listed below.

Contact the Chairman and Committee Members from Your Region

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

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

Region 2

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

Region 3

Chairman Only (see above)

Region 4

Rep. Stuart Bishop	(337) 981-7409	bishops@legis.la.gov
Rep. Jack Montoucet	(337) 783-2999	montouci@legis.la.gov
Rep. Joel Robideaux	(337) 984-1091	larep045@legis.la.gov
Rep. Ledricka Thierry	(337) 948-0369	thierryl@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
Rep. Chuck Kleckley	(337) 475-3016	larep036@legis.la.gov

Region 6

Rep. James Armes III	(337) 238-7004	armesj@legis.la.gov
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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

Region 8

Rep. Bubba Chaney	(318) 728-5875	chaneyb@legis.la.gov
Rep. Jim Fannin	(318) 259-6620	larep013@legis.la.gov

Region 9

Rep. J. Rogers Pope	(225) 667-3588	poper@legis.la.gov
Rep. John Schroder, Sr.	(985) 893-6262	schrodej@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
Rep. Nick Lorusso	(504) 483-4711	larep094@legis.la.gov

What to Say

Start by sharing your story:

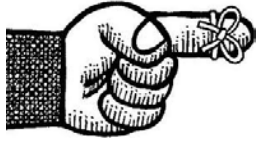
- Are you or a loved one waiting for waiver services? -- OR -- Are you or a loved one benefiting from waiver services?
- Has your child or someone you know benefited from EarlySteps services? -- OR -- Was your child or someone you know recently denied EarlySteps services due to only having delays in one developmental area?
- Has your family benefited from the services provided by Families Helping Families?
- Or all of the above?

Finish by telling your Representatives what he/she can do to help:

- Please provide funding to fill frozen waiver slots and create 500 new waiver slots
- Please provide funding to expand EarlySteps eligibility criteria
- Please restore funding to Families Helping Families

If you need additional assistance on what to say, your LaCAN Leader will be glad to help.

Click [here](#) for LaCAN Leader contact information.



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

Each year, State Government Departments submit their proposed budgets to the Division of Administration. The Governor and his staff review these proposals and develop the Executive Budget which is later presented to the legislature and becomes House Bill 1 (HB1). HB1 must then make its way through the [legislative process](#) before being finalized.

For Fiscal Year 2016, [HB1](#) cuts to various supports and services important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families. The good news is that there are many opportunities to advocate along the way, including the bill's first stop in the Appropriations Committee.

LaCAN members are advocating for the following issues to be addressed (click the links to read more):

- [Funding to fill frozen waiver slots and create 500 new waiver slots](#)
- [Funding for EarlySteps to expand eligibility to previously used criteria](#)
- [Restoration of funding for nine Families Helping Families Centers](#)

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](#).