



**ACTION ALERT #7 -
Contact Your State Representative and Senator
to Save DD Services**

Multiple revenue measures, as well as legislative instruments proposing additional cuts, are being heard in the House and Senate throughout Special Session (now through 3/9/2016). **ALL legislators need to hear from you on the impact of not funding existing services to people with developmental disabilities before they vote on these measures.**

Massive cuts to services will take place if additional revenue is not identified during this session. These proposed cuts, which can be found on the Council's latest [fact sheet](#), will be devastating to people with developmental disabilities and their families. Many legislators have promised to protect the NOW waiver. However, there is growing concern the other three DD Waivers, as well as other services listed on the fact sheet, will not receive the same protection. Our legislators must understand ALL DD services are critical and must be funded so individuals can remain in their homes and out of costly institutions.

Take Action Today!

Call or email your [Representative](#) and [Senator](#) throughout Special Session (now through 3/9/2016). You don't need to know a particular bill number. You just need to communicate the importance of funding **ALL** services for people with disabilities and **give them specific names of programs from the fact sheet.**

Don't know who your legislators are? Click [here](#) and enter your home address. Your State Representative will be listed first; your State Senator will be listed second. Click on their name for their contact information.

Attend Yellow Shirt Day

LaCAN members are encouraged to show up in yellow LaCAN shirts on any day of the Special Session to remind our legislators how important home and community-based services are to the developmental disability community. You are encouraged to attend any of the following committee meetings:

House Ways and Means	These two committees are responsible for raising additional revenue.
Senate Revenue and Fiscal Affairs	
House Appropriations	These two committees are responsible for deciding how to spend the money that is available.

Meeting Schedules for these committees as well as the House and Senate Floor are updated daily on the [legislative website](#). If you would like to attend a meeting please contact your LaCAN Leader for a shirt and/or to find out about carpooling options.

What to Say

Start by sharing your story:

- Are you or a loved one waiting for waiver services or benefiting from waiver services?
- Has your child or someone you know benefited from other programs such as Individual and Family Support, Flexible Family Fund, LA Rehabilitation Services, Families Helping Families, Long Term-Personal Care Services, EarlySteps, or the OCDD Resource Centers?
- What negative impacts would cuts to these programs and services have on your child, family, or someone you know?

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

- Stop Cuts to DD Services
- Identify additional revenue to prevent proposed cuts to DHH and LRS which would be devastating to the DD community.

Additional Information

Yesterday, the House passed House Bill 122 that made cuts to state agencies over and above what the Governor and Joint Budget Committee had already approved for this current fiscal year. The bill was first amended to remove the ADDITIONAL cuts to the Human Services Districts/Authorities and OCDD. The bill also protects funding for Pediatric Day Health Care Centers but NO other service for people with disabilities. The bill now heads to the Senate Finance Committee. Read the bill [here](#).

Contact Us

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.

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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