

# ACTION ALERT - Contact Your Representative to Exempt Self-Direction from Medication Administration Requirements



HB 185 by Rep. Kenny Havard would exempt Direct Support Professionals (DSP) working for waiver recipients in self-direction from the rigorous training currently required of all DSPs to administer any medication and perform non-complex medical tasks. HB 185, originally scheduled to be heard by the **Whole House** last week, will not be heard until Monday, March 31st.

## The deadline for this alert has been extended to Sunday, March 30th!

If this issue is important to you and you have not already done so, call/email your Representative. Communicate the importance of EXEMPTING self-direction from medication administration training requirements.

View House Bill 185 for details.

Contact your <u>LaCAN Leader</u> for assistance in contacting your legislator or to confirm your action.

# **Contact Your Representative**

Click here for a list of all State Representative's email addresses.

## Don't know your State Representative?

Click <u>here</u> and enter your home address to find out. The first name listed is your Louisiana House member. Click his/her name for full contact information.

## **Confirm Your Action**

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

Reply to this email or notify your Regional 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**

In December 2013, the requirements for a direct support professional (DSP) to administer medication and perform non-complex medical tasks changed. The new regulations require the provision of "nurse authorization" accompanied by 16 hours of training. Additionally, the DSP must receive person-specific training for individuals for whom the nurse has authorized certain non-complex tasks. The nurse authorizing the tasks must document in writing that the trained DSP has demonstrated competency as provided in the rule.

Waiver recipients using self direction currently fall under these new rules.

#### **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: <u>lacanadvocates44@yahoo.com</u>

Phone: 1-800-450-8108

Web: http://www.lacanadvocates.org

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LaCAN is an initiative of the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council.