

# Governor's Office of Disability Affairs

## Report to the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council

March 31, 2017

### Legislation

Listings below does not necessarily indicate the position of the Governor nor the position of GODA should amendments be made to the legislative instrument.

Supported by the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs:

<a href="#">HB 79</a>	Foil, Franklin &	Prohibits corporal punishment for certain students with
<a href="#">SB 91</a>	Peterson, Karen	exceptionalities.
<a href="#">HB 253</a>	Smith, Patricia	Revises terminology referring to the deaf and hard of hearing.
<a href="#">HB 337</a>	Stokes, Julie	Provides for an individual income tax credit for improvements made to the residences of individuals with certain disabilities.
<a href="#">HB 582</a>	Smith, Patricia	Provides relative to the telecommunications tax for the deaf.
<a href="#">SB 152</a>	Carter, Troy	Provides relative to identification of Special Needs Person and law enforcement training regarding mental health.

Opposed by the Governor's Office of Disability Affairs:

<a href="#">HB 588</a>	Morris, Jay	Provides for reductions to revenues into certain statutory funds.
<a href="#">SB 58</a>	Mills, Fred	Provides relative to statewide human services districts & authorities.
<a href="#">SB 226</a>	Hewitt, Sharon	Eliminates certain statutory dedications and eliminates certain dedications of certain funds.

### Employment First Workgroup

Meetings were held in February and March. David Hoff from UMass, an employment first expert provided via the internet an overview of Employment First and what other states have done. He will attend in person for the April 28, May 25, and June 6 meeting being held at the Claiborne Building from 9:30 to 2:00. Report with recommendations/next steps will be issued by June 30.

### Inclusive Arts Contest

"Together We Succeed" is the theme of this year's contest. All entries must be received by September 1. Details are available at <http://gov.louisiana.gov/page/disability-affairs>.

### ADA Symposium

The ADA Symposium is scheduled for July 26, 2017 at the Claiborne Building. Accessology will present in the morning regarding legal requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. There will be breakout sessions in the afternoon regarding a more in-depth look into physical accessibility, post-secondary services and programs, and local disability advisory councils. The target audience will be local, parish, and state government, post-secondary institutions, businesses, people with disabilities/access and functional needs and their advocates.

### Website: Newsletters, Statewide Events Calendar, & Resource List

The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs publishes a monthly newsletter, has a statewide events calendar, and a resource list which is posted on the Governor's webpage at <http://gov.louisiana.gov/page/disability-affairs>.