

Action Alert #22 - DD Services Remain on the Chopping Block! Contact Your State Representative NOW!

June 9, 2017

The 2017 Regular Legislative Session ended yesterday at 6:00 p.m. without the House and Senate reaching agreement on a state budget for next year (FY18). To resolve disagreements the Second Extraordinary Session began last night at 6:30 p.m.; however, no decisions were made. The House of Representatives will convene Monday at 9:00 to start over with a new budget bill (HB1) for FY18.

The Regular Session ended with house leaders wanting to cut an additional \$65 million (\$210 with federal match included) from the La. Department of Health (LDH). The Council was told if LDH sustains these cuts, "LINCCA" contracts will be cut which fund:

- Individual and Family Support services
- Flexible Family Fund
- Families Helping Families
- State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS)
- People First
- School Based Health Clinics
- Behavioral Health Services
- And more...

TAKE ACTION:

If you care about saving any of the programs listed above, **call or email your State Representative** and the House Leaders listed below **throughout the weekend** and tell them:

- You support the Senate version of the budget.
- No more cuts to LDH!
- Cuts to LDH will HURT people with disabilities and force people into more costly institutional settings.

Rep. Taylor Barras Speaker of the House

Rep. Cameron Henry Appropriations Committee Chairman

Rep. Lance Harris Republican Party Caucus Chairman

The House of Representatives are scheduled to convene at 9 a.m. Monday, June 12th. Click <u>here</u> for the State Representatives' full contact information.

Focus your energy on the representatives who voted "YES" to reject the Senate amendments. See list here.

Beginning Monday morning you can:

- Join other LaCAN members for
- Yellow Shirt Days. LaCAN members will be at the Capitol everyday of the special session - beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Monday.
- If you cannot make it to a yellow shirt day you can call and speak with your State Representative on the House Floor when the House is in session at 225-342-6945.
- You can also send an email.

Don't know who your State Representative is? Click <u>here</u> and enter your home address. The first person listed will be your State Representative.



Confirm Your Action

Don't forget to let us know you took action! Reply to this email or notify your <u>LaCAN Leader</u> to confirm your action.

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

Contact Us

LaCAN is an initiative of the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information in this email, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

phone: 1-800-450-8108 email: info@laddc.org

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates

twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

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