



## Action Alert #15 Contact Legislators on Two Important Issues

May 2, 2017

### First Issue - Human Services Districts/Authorities

Contact the House Health and Welfare Committee Members to express support for changes to the Human Services Districts/Authorities that will benefit people with developmental disabilities.

The current version of [Senate Bill 58](#) (SB58) by Senator Fred Mills would result in:

- increased representation of people with experience in developmental disabilities on the boards of the Districts/Authorities
- increased access to services for people with developmental disabilities.

SB58 passed the full Senate on May 1st and will now be considered by the House Health and Welfare Committee.



**TAKE ACTION:** Contact the Chairman and members from your region before **Tuesday, May 9th**, to let them know how you feel about this issue.

#### All Regions

Frank Hoffmann

#### Region 1

Helena Moreno

#### Region 2

Chairman Only (see top of list)

#### Region 3

Jerome Richard

#### Committee Chairman

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(318) 362-4130

#### New Orleans Area

[morenoh@legis.la.gov](mailto:morenoh@legis.la.gov)

(504) 568-2740

#### Baton Rouge Area

#### Houma/Thibodaux Area

[richardj@legis.la.gov](mailto:richardj@legis.la.gov)

(985) 447-0999

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<b>Region 4</b>	<b>Lafayette Area</b>	
Bob Hensgens (Vice-Chair)	<a href="mailto:hensgensb@legis.la.gov">hensgensb@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 893-5035
Dustin Miller	<a href="mailto:millerd@legis.la.gov">millerd@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 943-2900
Bernard LeBas	<a href="mailto:lebasb@legis.la.gov">lebasb@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 363-0152
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Bob Hensgens	<a href="mailto:hensgensb@legis.la.gov">hensgensb@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 893-5035
<b>Region 6</b>	<b>Alexandria Area</b>	
Robert Johnson	<a href="mailto:johnsoro@legis.la.gov">johnsoro@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 253-8891
<b>Region 7</b>	<b>Shreveport Area</b>	
Lawrence Bagley	<a href="mailto:bagleyl@legis.la.gov">bagleyl@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 925-9588
Dodie Horton	<a href="mailto:hortond@legis.la.gov">hortond@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 949-2463
Kenny Cox	<a href="mailto:coxk@legis.la.gov">coxk@legis.la.gov</a>	(855) 844-8583
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Charles "Bubba" Chaney	<a href="mailto:chaneyb@legis.la.gov">chaneyb@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 728-5875
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Katrina Jackson	<a href="mailto:jacksonk@legis.la.gov">jacksonk@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 362-5123
<b>Region 9</b>	<b>Hammond/Northshore Area</b>	
J. Rogers Pope	<a href="mailto:poper@legis.la.gov">poper@legis.la.gov</a>	(225) 667-3588
<b>Region 10</b>	<b>Jefferson/New Orleans Area</b>	
Julie Stokes	<a href="mailto:stokesj@legis.la.gov">stokesj@legis.la.gov</a>	(504) 462-8603
Joseph Stagni	<a href="mailto:stagnij@legis.la.gov">stagnij@legis.la.gov</a>	(504) 465-3479

## **Second Issue - Funding Services for People with Developmental Disabilities**

Contact your personal representative to express support for the funding of vacant waiver slots and the restoration of cuts to the LA Department of Health (LDH) and EarlySteps.

The current version of the budget ([House Bill 1](#)) includes \$1.6 million in state general funds to fill some of the vacant waiver slots. This is great news; however, the budget also includes over \$235 million in cuts to LDH. The bill contains language prohibiting LDH from cutting waiver services and ABA rates, but LDH cannot possibly absorb these drastic cuts without services to people with developmental disabilities and other vulnerable populations being impacted. In addition, the \$1 million in cuts to EarlySteps were not restored.

HB1 passed out of the Appropriations Committee on May 1st and now heads to the full House.



**TAKE ACTION:** Contact your [Representative](#) before **Thursday, May 4th**, to express support for:

- funding to fill the vacant waiver slots that is currently included in the budget
- restoration of the cuts to EarlySteps
- restoration of ALL cuts to LDH.

## Confirm Your Action

Don't forget to let us know you took action! Reply to this email or notify your [LaCAN Leader](#) 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](mailto:info@laddc.org)

website: [www.lacanadvocates.org](http://www.lacanadvocates.org)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates](http://www.facebook.com/lacanadvocates)

twitter: [www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil](http://www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil)



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