



Information Alert #3 Update on Budgets for FY17 and FY18

February 23, 2017

Governor's Executive Budget for FY18

The Governor's proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1st was presented to the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget this morning. The state has a \$440 million shortfall to maintain services at the current level. By law the Governor must propose a balanced budget, so the budget presented today includes cuts across state agencies.

What does this mean for people with developmental disabilities?

Cuts of \$184 million in state general funds are being proposed to the LA Department of Health (LDH) including:

- \$1 million cut to EarlySteps - this will restrict enrollment by eliminating certain established medical conditions from current eligibility criteria
- \$4.89 million cut (in state general funds) to the Human Services Districts/Authorities - after years of repeated budget cuts, any additional cuts to these agencies will adversely impact services
- \$250,000 cut to the LA Assistive Technology Access Network (LATAN)

Fortunately, no cuts to current waiver recipients and/or services were included in the budget.

What funding is NOT included in the proposed budget?

- Additional waiver slots for those on the waiting list
- Enhanced waiver rate for people with complex medical and/or behavioral support needs
- Individual and Family Support hours to be added to the Supports Waiver
- To address the disparity in funding among the Human Services Districts/Authorities

Read the Governor's statement on the proposed budget [here](#).

Special Session Results

The Special Session ended last night with the Legislature closing the \$304 million mid-year budget deficit for FY17 with the passage of [HB3](#). The legislature voted to use \$99 million of the Rainy Day Fund, which was \$20 million less than the Governor had recommended. HB3 imposes an additional \$4.8 million in cuts to LDH, over and above the Governor's recommended amount of \$127 million.

LaCAN would like to thank all of our members who attended yellow shirt days and contacted their legislators to help minimize the cuts to LDH. Over 500 actions were taken in support of protecting disability services from devastating cuts!

Action alerts pertaining to advocacy opportunities on FY18's budget will be forthcoming soon and throughout the regular legislative session (April 10th - June 8th).



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

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Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

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DISABILITY RIGHTS DAY
VISIT LEGISLATORS. RALLY TOGETHER. ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE.
SAVE the DATE
Wednesday, April 26th - LA State Capitol
Find out more @ www.lacanadvocates.org

RSVP with your [LaCAN Leader](#) or local [Families Helping Families Center](#).