



Action Alert #8

Contact Your Legislators to Avoid Cuts to DD Services

February 14, 2017

Yesterday, the 2017 Special Legislative Session was called to order to address Louisiana's budget shortfall of over \$300 million for the year ending June 30, 2017. Today, at 2:00 p.m., two committees will begin discussion on two major approaches to solving the budget deficit.

ISSUE: Budget Stabilization Fund (AKA the Rainy Day Fund)

TAKE ACTION: Contact your [Senator](#) to let them know how you feel about using the Rainy Day Fund.

Information: Using the maximum amount allowable of the Rainy Day Fund will help prevent additional cuts to the Louisiana Department of Health and help protect services for people with disabilities. [SCR2](#) seeks to use the maximum amount of the Rainy Day Fund.

The Senate Finance Committee will discuss SCR2 today at 2:00 p.m.



ISSUE: Budget Cuts To Agencies

TAKE ACTION: Contact your [Representative](#) to let them know the impact of additional cuts to the La. Department of Health and services for people with disabilities.

Information: [HB3](#) includes the cuts to state agencies proposed by Governor Edwards. However, some representatives have indicated plans to propose more aggressive cuts to agencies than are proposed in HB3.

The House Appropriations Committee will discuss HB3 today at 2:00 p.m.



If DD services are important to you, now is the time to let your legislators know!

How to Take Action

Join LaCAN Advocates at the Capitol any day during the Special Session. Today's Committee meetings begin at 2:00 p.m., the full House of Representatives convenes at 4:00 p.m. and the full Senate convenes at 5:00 p.m. Meeting schedules are updated daily on the Legislative website (www.legis.la.gov).

Call or email your state representative and your senator to let them know how cuts to services would impact you, your family, or others with developmental disabilities.

Don't know who your legislators are? Click [here](#) and enter your home address. Your state representative will be listed first; your state senator will be listed second. Click on their name for their contact information.

WHAT TO SAY?

Tell your legislators how important these services are to you:

- Tell them how you feel about using the Rainy Day Fund to avoid additional cuts to the La. Department of Health.
- Ask them to support the funding of all services for people with developmental disabilities in the Louisiana Department of Health's budget.
- Explain the negative impacts the elimination of or reduction to these programs and services would have on you, your child, family, or someone you know.

Confirm Your Action

Don't forget to let us know that you took action! Reply to this email or notify your [LaCAN Leader](#) to confirm your action.

Why confirm your action? This helps the Council to 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



Louisiana Developmental
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