

2018 Legislative Tracking List as of 3/16/2018 @ 9:30 AM

- Priority 1 Activate grassroots network
- Priority 1b Discretion w/ activating grassroots network
- Priority 2 Council advocacy action
- Priority 3 No action; report final outcome only

*The positions noted below are not a position on the legislative instrument, but a position on the issues addressed in that instrument.

Bill is still in the legislative process; outcome is yet to be determined
Bill in which the final outcome IS aligned with the Council's position
Bill in which the final outcome IS NOT aligned with the Council's position
Bill in which the Council's position was neutral
Either (1) bill was withdrawn, (2) bill was substituted with another bill, or (3) no action was taken on bill

Instrument	Author	Summary	Position*	Priority	Notes	Updates / Action Taken	Status
HB1	Henry	APPROPRIATIONS: Provides for the ordinary operating expenses of state government for Fiscal Year 2018-2019.	Against	1	Includes up to \$2.4 Billion (in total funding) cuts to LDH, resulting in elimination of many services to people with DD and other vulnerable populations.	Action alert will be sent to announce yellow shirt day on 3/26/18 and public testimony 4/10/18.	Pending House Appropriations
SB345	Donahue	STUDENTS: Provides relative to school master plans for supporting student behavioral health. (gov sig)	For	1	Addresses Council advocacy agenda for LDOE to have a statewide plan for behavior leadership and support.		Pending Senate Education
HB46	Harris	Medicaid: Provides for work and community engagement requirements in the state Medicaid program	Against	1b	Companion bill SB77 authored by Hewitt. Could reduce or eliminate Medicaid access for low-income families; increase burden to obtain/maintain Medicaid coverage by having to provide documentation for disability; increase administrative costs which could be used for HCBS; no provisions for those who are unable to work but do not meet the strict Medicaid eligibility criteria for being "unfit" for employment.		Pending House Health & Welfare
HB280	McFarland	MEDICAID: Institutes premium payment requirements in the Medicaid program	Against	1b	Institutes premium payments in the Medicaid program which will place additional financial hardships on many parents of children with disabilities and Direct Support Professionals who are not making a living wage.		Pending House Health & Welfare
SB77	Hewitt	MEDICAID: Provides relative to opportunities to promote work and community engagement among Medicaid recipients. (8/1/18)	Against	1b	Companion bill HB46 authored by Harris. Could reduce or eliminate Medicaid access for low-income families; increase burden to obtain/maintain Medicaid coverage by having to provide documentation for disability; increase administrative costs which could be used for HCBS; no provisions for those who are unable to work but do not meet the strict Medicaid eligibility criteria for being "unfit" for employment.		Pending Senate Health & Welfare

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SB300	Hewitt	HEALTH CARE: Provides relative to tasks performed by direct service workers. (8/1/18)	Against	1b	Deletes nurse delegation of medical tasks to DSPs from current law; adds physician delegation of medical tasks to DSPs; changes training requirements for DSPs performing medical tasks employed through self-direction.		Pending Senate Health & Welfare
SB347	Hewitt	FUNDS/FUNDING: Provides relative to funding for waiver services for individuals with developmental disabilities. (8/1/18)	For	1b	Provides that state general fund dollars from savings resulting from changes in the delivery of services for individuals with developmental disabilities shall also be deposited into the fund.		Pending Senate Finance
HB14	P. Smith	RETIREMENT/TEACHERS: Provides relative to the reemployment of retired interpreters, educational transliterators, and certified educators of the hearing impaired in positions covered by the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana	For	2			Pending House Retirement
HB105	Stokes	SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Allows certain Type 1 charter schools to act as their own local education agencies	Against	2	Identification of and enrollment levels of students with disabilities would cause problems with funding discrepancies and provision of appropriate services.		Pending House Education
HB128	J. Morris	SNAP/FOOD STAMPS: Requires legislative authorization for any waiver of SNAP work requirements for able-bodied adults without dependents	Against	2	Could impact receipt of SNAP benefits for individuals with disabilities unable to provide documentation of disability.		Pending House Health & Welfare
HB199	P. Smith	EXCEPTIONAL PERSONS: Creates Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K) Task Force to develop framework for assessing children who are deaf or hard of hearing to determine language skills and ensure kindergarten readiness	For	2			Pending House Education
HB334	Bacala	MEDICAID: Provides for implementation of a Medicaid managed long-term services and supports system	For	2	Companion bill SB357 authored by Appel. Would implement MLTSS population served by Office of Aging and Adult Services. Would provide greater opportunities for this population to receive home and community-based services. Specifically states provisions in law shall not apply to DD population.		Pending House Health & Welfare

HB362	Hoffman	MEDICAID: Provides relative to the state's system of Medicaid-funded long-term care	Against, as written	2	To reform the methodologies and processes governing Medicaid reimbursement for long-term care services to ensure these services are provided in the most efficient and effective manner possible. Would support if amended to indicate cost savings will increase rate to a certain amount for PCA services only; additional cost savings to be used for new waiver opportunities.		Pending House Health & Welfare
HB650	Foil	STUDENT/TUITION: Creates a program for education savings accounts for tuition expenses for elementary and secondary schools	Against	2	Plan would likely redirect state revenues to private schools.		Pending House Education
SB292	Barrow	SCHOOLS: Prohibits a chartering authority from approving or renewing charters until the legislative auditor conducts certain performance audits. (gov sig)	For	2	Would prohibit BESE and local school boards from authorizing a new charter or renewing and existing charter until the legislative auditor conducts a performance audit and determined the school is in compliance with law.		Pending Senate Education
SB298	Milkovich	SCHOOLS: Provide relative to school safety. (gov sig)	Against	2	Allows a school employee to have a student removed from campus due to a perceived threat.	Shared general concerns with Sen. Milkovich on 3/14/18.	Pending Senate Education
SB301	Milkovich	TEACHERS: Provides relative to Teacher Bill of Rights. (gov sig)	Against	2	Proposed law updates Teacher Bill of Rights to include provisions from SB298.	Shared general concerns with Sen. Milkovich on 3/14/18.	Pending Senate Education
SB303	Milkovich	SCHOOLS: Provides relative to bullying. (gov sig)	Against	2	(ii) A school employee who witnesses an incident of bullying may take all steps deemed necessary to stop the behavior, including reasonable force, physical restraint, or removal of the offending student from the school grounds. (iii) A school official may contact law enforcement and have the student exhibiting bullying behavior immediately removed from the school grounds.	Shared concerns with Sen. Milkovich on 3/14/18. He requested LaDDC staff provide language change recommendations Staff provided information related to proposed bill in Senate Education on 3/15/18 beginning at 1:22:23	Pending Senate Floor Action
SB310	Claitor	EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: Provides relative to the collection and reporting of certain data regarding students with exceptionalities. (gov sig)	For	2	Proposed law directs the commissioner of administration to withhold 10% of the funds appropriated to the state DOE through the general appropriation bill for "STATE ACTIVITIES" for any fiscal year in which the department fails to collect and report the data.		Pending Senate Education

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SB357	Appel	MEDICAID: Provides relative to Medicaid managed care for individuals receiving long-term services and supports. (8/1/18)	For	2	Companion bill HB334 authored by Bacala. Would implement MLTSS for population served by the Office of Aging and Adult Services. Would provide greater opportunities for this population to receive home and community based services. Specifically states provisions in law shall not apply to DD population.		Pending Senate Health & Welfare
SB407	T. Carter	LOTTERIES: Authorizes three separate additional lottery games with proceeds from each dedicated to veterans, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities. (See Act)	For	2	Creates a board for each fund. DDC is represented on the board for people with disabilities.		Pending Senate Judiciary B
HB79	Mack	CRIME: Creates the crime of abuse of persons with infirmities through electronic means and provides for criminal penalties and exceptions	For	3	Protects individuals with DD and other populations from abuse through electronic means.		Pending House Administration of Criminal Justice
HB191	S. Bishop	COMMERCIAL REGULATIONS: Provides relative to the availability of certain seating in restaurant establishments	For	3	Would improve accessibility of seating for individuals with disabilities.		Pending House Commerce
HB192	Bouie	EMPLOYMENT/WAGES: Establishes a state minimum wage rate	For	3	Companion bill SB162 authored by T. Carter. Raising minimum wage would have an overwhelming positive impact on the recruitment and retainment of Direct Support Professionals.		Pending House Labor & Industrial Relations
HB198	Simon	FUNDS/FUNDING: Provides relative to distribution of funding from the Traumatic Head and Spinal Cord Injury Trust Fund	Neutral	3	Fund shall be considered as a source of last resort after Medicare and Medicaid sources have been expended for Louisiana citizens.		Pending House Health & Welfare
HB238	McFarland	MEDICAID: Provides relative to the state medical assistance program	Neutral	3	Monitor for amendments.		Pending House Health & Welfare
HB258	Garofalo	NURSING HOMES: Provides for a limited exception to the moratorium on additional nursing facilities	Against	3			Pending House Health & Welfare
HB294	P. Smith	STUDENTS: Changes references to "at-risk" students to students who are "economically disadvantaged" throughout Title 17 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes	Neutral	3			Pending House Final Passage

HB323	Foil	CONSTITUTION/CONVENTION: Provides for calling a limited constitutional convention for fiscal purposes and preparations therefor	For	3	Companion bills HB385, HB500, SB218 & SB329. States there is a need to address a number of key policy areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that a serious analysis and revision of the state constitution is needed to conduct an examination of the state's critical needs, to consider reform proposals, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions.		Voluntarily Deferred
HB337	Foil	SCHOOLS: Requires public school governing authorities to develop policies relative to notifying certain school visitors of crisis management and response plans	Neutral	3	It would seem to be too much information for every visitor to be told of a crisis response plan.		Pending House Education
HB351	Jenkins	VOTERS/VOTING: Provides relative to voting by persons in a nursing home	For	3			Pending House & Governmental Affairs
HB385	Ivey	CONSTITUTION/CONVENTION: Provides for calling a limited constitutional convention and preparations therefor	For	3	Companion bills HB323, HB500, SB218 & SB329. States there is a need to address a number of key policy areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that a serious analysis and revision of the state constitution is needed to conduct an examination of the state's critical needs, to consider reform proposals, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions.		FAILED House & Governmental Affairs
HB389	G. Carter	CRIME/SEX OFFENSES: Increases penalties for the crime of sexual assault of persons with infirmities and provides enhanced penalties under certain circumstances	For	3	Increases prison sentence for the crime of sexual battery of persons with infirmities and provides for enhanced penalties when the victim is the resident of a nursing home, ICF/DD or other facility and the offender is an employee of the facility.		Pending House Administration of Criminal Justice
HB395	Foil	CHILDREN/TUTORSHIP: Provides relative to tutorship	Neutral	3			Pending House Civil Law & Procedure
HB402	Edmonds	EMPLOYMENT: Provides for the reimbursement of the cost of certain preemployment examinations, testing, or background checks	Against	3	Allows employer to seek reimbursement from employee for criminal background check should employee leave in less than 90 days. Similar bill last year was deferred but only targeted home and community providers.		Pending House Labor & Industrial Relations

HB457	Hoffman	MOTOR VEHICLES: Provides relative to a needs accommodation designation on a license plate	For	3	Allows a needs accomodation to be included on an individual with a disability license plate. Also requires law enforcement to use electronic means immediately to determine accomodation needed by individual prior to approaching the vehicle and provides training to law enforcement on interacting with persons who need accomodation.		Pending House Transportation, Highways & Public Works
HB474	P. Smith	LAW ENFORCE/OFFICERS: Requires additional training for peace officers	For	3			Pending House Judiciary
HB500	Abramson	CONSTITUTION/CONVENTION: Provides for calling a limited constitutional convention and preparations therefor	For	3	Companion bills HB323, HB385, SB218 & SB329. States there is a need to address a number of key policy areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that a serious analysis and revision of the state constitution is needed to conduct an examination of the state's critical needs, to consider reform proposals, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions.		Pending House Appropriations
HB505	Carmody	FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS: Protects certain individuals from financial exploitation	For	3			Pending House Commerce
HB511	Bacala	MENTAL HEALTH: Requires a mental health evaluation of persons who threaten public safety or physical harm to other persons	Neutral	3	Late for an eval. Perhaps LEA should review what went wrong with their screening/evaluation process if the child threatening public safety was never identified and offered services.		Pending House Education
HB570	N. Landry	SCHOOLS/CHARTER: Provides relative to charter schools	Neutral	3	Monitor for amendments.		Pending House Education
HB627	Lyons	EXCEP PERSON/DEV DISABLE: Authorizes the recommendation of medical marijuana for treating certain health conditions of persons with autism	For	3			Pending House Health & Welfare
HB647	Norton	MENTAL HEALTH: Requires the La. Department of Health to implement the Medicaid health home option for persons with serious mental illness	For	3			Pending House Health & Welfare
SB89	W. Bishop	SCHOOLS: Requires parent representation on each charter school governing or management board. (gov sig)	For	3	Representation of a public body should be inclusive of any tax-payer of that entity.		Pending Senate Education

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SB107	Morrish	EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY: Requires the state Department of Education to provide student assessment results for certain assessments for dispersal to teachers. (gov sig)	For	3			Pending Senate Education
SB152	Morrish	EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY: Provides relative to information provided with the release of school performance scores and letter grades. (gov sig)	For	3			Pending Senate Education
SB162	T. Carter	EMPLOYMENT: Provides for an increase in the state minimum wage. (2/3 - CAs2.1)(8/1/18)	For	3	Companion bill HB192 authored by Bouie. Raising the minimum wage would have an overwhelming positive impact on the recruitment and retainment of Direct Support Professionals.		Pending Senate Floor Action
SB205	Boudreaux	SCHOOLS: Provides relative to the operation of a Type 2 charter school. (gov sig)	Neutral	3			Pending Senate Education
SB218	T. Carter	CONSTITUTION CONVENTION: Provides for calling a limited constitutional convention for finance matters. (gov sig)	For	3	Companion bills HB323, HB385, HB500 & SB329. States there is a need to address a number of key policy areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that a serious analysis and revision of the state constitution is needed to conduct an examination of the state's critical needs, to consider reform proposals, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions.		Pending Senate & Governmental Affairs
SB235	Colomb	HEALTH/ACC INSURANCE: Provides for insurance coverage for hearing aids. (8/1/18)	For	3	Extends hearing aid insurance coverage to adults.		Pending Senate Insurance
SB256	Peacock	EMPLOYMENT: Allows employers to receive reimbursement for the costs of employee criminal background checks when certain employees terminate employment in less than ninety days. (8/1/18)	Against	3	Allows employer to seek reimbursement from employee for criminal background check should employee leave in less than 90 days. Similar bill last year was deferred but only targeted home and community providers.		Pending Senate Labor & Industrial Relations

SB265	Morrell	COURTS: Provides for minimum standards for elevator access to multistory courthouses for the disabled community. (8/1/18)	For	3	Would provide for increased accessibility of multistory courthouses.		Pending Senate Health & Welfare
SB302	Milkovich	SUPERINTENDENT OF ED: Provides for Senate confirmation of the state superintendent of education. (gov sig)	Neutral	3			Pending Senate Education
SB329	Cortez	CONSTITUTION CONVENTION: Provides for calling a constitutional convention. (gov sig)	For	3	Companion bills HB323, HB385, HB500 & SB218. States there is a need to address a number of key policy areas that require constitutional change, that the constitution restricts the legislature in effectively addressing state and constituent needs, and that a serious analysis and revision of the state constitution is needed to conduct an examination of the state's critical needs, to consider reform proposals, and to craft provisions that allow legislative solutions.		Pending Senate & Governmental Affairs
SB331	Colomb	MOTOR VEHICLES: Provides for a ten-year renewable period for hang tags for persons with mobility impairments. (8/1/18)	For	3			Pending Senate Transportation, Highways & Public Works