



## Information Alert #3: Special Session Ends with No Fix to Fiscal Cliff

March 6, 2018

The Special Session ended Monday night after the Legislature failed to agree on a plan to address the state's looming \$1 billion fiscal cliff beginning July 1st. As a result of this inaction, cuts to the LA Department of Health (LDH) of over \$650 million in state general funds (\$2.4 billion including federal matching funds) are currently included in the proposed Fiscal Year 19 budget (FY19). If the budget shortfall is not addressed in a second special session, the reduction or elimination of the following programs and services for people with developmental disabilities is proposed:

- Elimination of Children's Choice and Supports Waivers
- Elimination of Long Term Personal Care Services
- Elimination of Pediatric Day Health Care Centers
- Elimination of Supported Independent Living in the New Opportunities Waiver
- Stricter financial eligibility criteria for Medicaid long term care services (impacting 57% of current home and community based waiver recipients and ICF/DD residents)
- Significant reduction to behavioral health and addictive disorder services
- Reduction to Support Coordination

In his [End of Special Session Press Conference](#), Governor Edwards stated he has spoken with House Speaker Barras and Senate President Alario urging them to end the upcoming regular legislative session early so a second special session can be called to address the state's budget shortfall.

LaCAN would like to thank all of our members who attended yellow shirt days and contacted their legislators urging them to do whatever was necessary to avoid eliminations and cuts to vital services. Nearly 1,000 actions were taken in support of protecting disability services!

Louisiana Lawmakers will convene Monday, March 12, 2018 at noon to begin the 2018 Regular Legislative Session. Action alerts pertaining to the FY19 budget and other issues affecting people with developmental disabilities will be shared throughout the session.

### 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:

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