



## Louisiana as Model Employer of People with Disabilities

March 22, 2018

The DD Council applauds Governor John Bel Edwards on signing an Executive Order on Monday directing state agencies to implement strategies to "attract, engage, and advance people with disabilities." In an effort to remove barriers to employment, as well as retain and advance the careers of employees with disabilities, Governors and Legislatures across the nation have taken similar action.

"All of Louisiana's citizens, including those who live with a disability, deserve the opportunity to provide for their families and engage in meaningful employment," Gov. Edwards said. "My goal is to ensure that employment within state government represents the diverse reality of Louisiana's citizens and acts as a model for private industry. In other words, we should practice what we preach."

In addition, the Order created a taskforce to develop policies, strategies, and services designed to achieve a seven percent employment target along with a five year plan and guidance for state agencies on employing individuals with disabilities.

While only 33 percent of individuals with disabilities are in the workforce, more than 19 million people work in state and local governments in a wide variety of jobs and occupations. As large and diverse employers, state and local governments offer many types of employment opportunities to residents and have the capacity to provide good paying, quality jobs with benefits.

Read the Governor's Office [Press Release](#).

Read the Governor's signed [Executive Order](#).

### Contact Us

LaDDC News is the electronic newsletter for the LA Developmental Disabilities Council. If there are any questions about the information above, contact the Council by replying to this email, or calling the toll free number listed below:

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