



Action Alert #12

Contact Senate Finance & Attend Public Testimony Day For the Funding of DD Services!

May 20, 2019



Let Senate Finance hear why funding DD services is important to you!

The state's budget bill ([HB105](#)) passed the House and is now being considered by the Senate Finance Committee. The committee plans to hear public testimony on HB105 on **Friday, May 24, 2019**. Several LaCAN members will represent our group by testifying before the committee, but it is important for LaCAN to fill the room with yellow shirts to show support for DD services!

The House added provisions that tied the hands of the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), while also adding line-item obligations without additional funding. LDH has testified before Senate Finance that HB105, in its current form, **is \$44 million in state general funds short of what is needed to:**

- Fund the rate restoration;
- Implement TEFRA; and
- Maintain current services.

If Senate Finance does not provide additional funding to LDH and remove the restriction related to the Public Private Partnerships in HB105, **LDH officials testified that cuts may have to be made to current services for people with developmental disabilities and/or TEFRA will not be funded.**

Two issues important to the disability community were also left out of the House's version of HB105:

- Additional funding for the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) program to serve all individuals on the waiting list; and
- Additional funding for the two Human Services Districts/Authorities with the lowest state funding per capita – Northwest LA & Florida Parishes.

If any or all of these issues are important to you or someone you know, [share your thoughts with Senate Finance today!](#)

How to Take Action

[Contact the senator\(s\) from your area on the Senate Finance Committee](#) by **Thursday, May 23rd**. Share your personal story and why the issues below are important to you, your family or someone you know:

- Rate restoration for waiver providers to 2008 levels;
- Implementation of the TEFRA Medicaid State Plan Option;
- NO cuts to current services for people with developmental disabilities;
- Serving people on the State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) waiting list;
- Equitable funding for the two Human Services Districts/Authorities with the lowest state funding per capita – Northwest LA & Florida Parishes

**Put on Your Yellow and
Join Us at the Capitol**



Attend Public Testimony Day

When: Friday, May 24, 2019
9:00 AM (**Tentative Time**)

Where: Senate Room A-B (**Tentative Location**)
Louisiana State Capitol - Baton Rouge, LA

Don't forget to arrive early to ensure you get a seat. If you plan to attend, need a yellow shirt or want to find out about carpooling options, contact your [LaCAN Leader](#).

Can't make it for Yellow Shirt Day?

You can watch the committee meeting live from the [legislature's website](#). When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.

Need help getting involved?

Do you need help making contact with your legislator(s) or want to become more involved in LaCAN activities? Contact your regional [LaCAN Leader](#) today!

[CONTACT YOUR COMMITTEE MEMBERS TODAY!](#)

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/LaDDCouncil

twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

Click [HERE](#) to view all recent LaCAN Alerts