



Action Alert #12 Let House Education Know the Importance of Requiring Cameras in Special Education Classrooms!

May 21, 2021



[SB86](#) by Senator Foil successfully made its way through the Senate. Now it heads to House Education for discussion!

Tuesday, May 25th (*TENTATIVE*)

House Education meets at 9 AM in Room 1 to discuss [SB86](#) which would require cameras be installed in self-contained special education classrooms upon request. *It is possible SB86 will be heard on Wednesday, May 26th, at 9 AM if the committee is unable to hear all scheduled bills on Tuesday.*

Students with disabilities, particularly students who are non-verbal, are at greater risk of abuse and do not have the communication skills to self-report this abuse. Parents want peace of mind that their children are treated with dignity and care behind closed doors of special education classrooms. Video and audio surveillance increases student safety, protects educators from false accusations, and promotes improved training to address student challenging behavior.

If [requiring cameras in special education classrooms upon request](#) is important to you or someone you know, **NOW** is the time to take action!

How to Take Action

Share your personal story and explain how cameras in special education classrooms would affect you, your family or someone you know.

1. **Email or call** the Vice-Chair and members of the House Education Committee before they meet on Tuesday, May 25th! Find your member of the House Education Committee at the end of this alert.
2. **Email** h-educ@legis.la.gov your public comments about cameras in classrooms:
 - Only statements submitted prior to 8 AM on Tuesday, May 25th, will be included in the record for this committee meeting.
 - With your comments, please ensure to include your name, address, phone number, email address, and bill number (SB86).

As the Council and LaCAN continue to practice mitigation efforts to reduce the spread of COVID-19, we will not hold official Yellow Shirt Days in-person at this time and encourage everyone to advocate safely.

Get Involved Virtually

- Watch committee meetings live from the [legislature's website](#). When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.
- Host committee watch parties on social media and/or post a video sharing your personal story
 - Tag your friends, representatives, senators, and policymakers
 - Use hashtags #LaDDC, #lalege, #LaCAN
- Email, tweet, message, etc. members of the committee before and during the committee meeting and share how the issues above will impact you/your loved ones

Tips & Tools for Advocacy

Looking for tips and tools to help you in your advocacy? Check out the Council's [Advocacy 101](#) page. You can also find tips for:

- [Writing/emailing your legislators](#)
- [Calling your legislators](#)
- [Writing your story](#)

Confirm Your Action

- Email your [LaCAN Leader](#) after you take action
- Why confirm your action? This helps the Council know how effective we are reaching you with 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/LaDDCouncil

twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

Sign up to receive LaCAN Alerts [HERE](#).

View all recent LaCAN Alerts [HERE](#).



Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

Find your member of the House Education Committee!

All Regions	Committee Chair	
Mark Wright	wrightm@legis.la.gov	(985) 893-6262
Region 1	New Orleans Area	
Gary Carter	carterg@legis.la.gov	(504) 361-6600
Aimee Adatto Freeman	hse098@legis.la.gov	(504) 861-1614
Ray Garofalo	garofalor@legis.la.gov	(504) 277-4729
Stephanie Hilferty	hilfertys@legis.la.gov	(504) 885-4154
Region 2	Baton Rouge Area	
Ken Brass	brassk@legis.la.gov	(225) 265-9005
Rick Edmonds	edmondsr@legis.la.gov	(225) 295-9240
Barbara Reich Freiberg	hse070@legis.la.gov	(225) 763-3500
Region 3	Houma/Thibodaux Area	
Beryl Amedee	amedeeb@legis.la.gov	(985) 858-2967
Ken Brass	brassk@legis.la.gov	(225) 265-9005
Vincent J. "Vinney" St. Blanc III	hse050@legis.la.gov	(337) 828-7778
Region 4	Lafayette Area	
Vincent J. "Vinney" St. Blanc III	hse050@legis.la.gov	(337) 828-7778
Region 5	Lake Charles Area	
Charles "Chuck" Owen	hse030@legis.la.gov	(337) 460-8726
Phillip Tarver	hse036@legis.la.gov	(337) 472-8186
Region 6	Alexandria Area	
Charles "Chuck" Owen	hse030@legis.la.gov	(337) 460-8726
Region 7	Shreveport Area	
Patrick O. Jefferson	jeffersonpo@legis.la.gov	(318) 927-2519
Tammy Phelps	hse003@legis.la.gov	(318) 862-3080
Region 8	Monroe Area	
Patrick O. Jefferson	jeffersonpo@legis.la.gov	(318) 927-2519
Region 9	Hammond/Northshore Area	
Mark Wright (Vice-Chair)	wrightm@legis.la.gov	(985) 893-6262
Region 10	Jefferson/New Orleans Area	
Stephanie Hilferty	hilfertys@legis.la.gov	(504) 885-4154
Laurie Schlegel	hse082@legis.la.gov	(504) 655-6887

Committee Members are sorted by region. Find your region!

Louisiana Regions

