



Action Alert #16 Comprehensive Dental Coverage for Adults with I/DD Headed to Senate Finance!

May 28, 2021



Senate Finance needs to hear from you about the importance of ensuring adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities have access to comprehensive dental care!

Tuesday, June 1st Senate Finance meets at 12 PM to discuss [HB172](#) by Representative Butler ([agenda](#))

On May 26th, Senate Health & Welfare passed HB172 by Representative Butler which addresses the lack of adequate dental care available to adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). The Louisiana Dental Task Force for Adults with I/DD released a formal report in December 2020 recommending extensive actions to address this issue:

- [Formal Report by the Louisiana Dental Task Force for Adults with I/DD](#)
- [Adults with I/DD Dental Graphic](#)

If passed, HB172 would begin to address this issue by requiring the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to ensure Medicaid coverage for comprehensive dental care be provided to adults who are enrolled in any Medicaid waiver program for persons with I/DD. Coverage would be dependent on approval by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and appropriations from the legislature.

If this issue 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 the issues above would affect you, your family or someone you know.

1. **Email or call** the Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee before the committee meets Tuesday, June 1st! Find your member of the Senate Finance Committee at the end of this alert.

2. **Email** sfnce@legis.la.gov your public comments about the budget:
 - Only statements emailed to the address above and received at least 3 hours prior to the meeting will be included in the meeting record.
 - With your comments, please ensure to include your name, address, phone number, email address, and bill number (HB172).

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

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Louisiana Developmental
Disabilities Council

Find your member of the Senate Finance Committee!

All Regions	Committee Chair	
Mack "Bodi" White Jr.	whitem@legis.la.gov	(225) 272-1324
Region 1	New Orleans Area	
Jimmy Harris	harrisj@legis.la.gov	(504) 243-1960
Cameron Henry	henryc@legis.la.gov	(504) 838-5433
Region 2	Baton Rouge Area	
Regina Barrow	barrowr@legis.la.gov	(225) 359-9400
Mack "Bodi" White Jr. (Chair)	whitem@legis.la.gov	(225) 272-1324
Region 3	Houma/Thibodaux Area	
Michael Fesi	sen20@legis.la.gov	(985) 858-2979
Region 4	Lafayette Area	
Gerald Boudreaux	boudreauxg@legis.la.gov	(337) 267-7520
Heather Cloud (Vice-Chair)	sen28@legis.la.gov	(337) 461-2595
Mark Abraham	abrahamm@legis.la.gov	(337) 475-3016
Region 5	Lake Charles Area	
Mark Abraham	abrahamm@legis.la.gov	(337) 475-3016
Heather Cloud	sen28@legis.la.gov	(337) 461-2595
Ronnie Johns	johnsr@legis.la.gov	(337) 491-2016
Region 6	Alexandria Area	
Heather Cloud	sen28@legis.la.gov	(337) 461-2595
Glen Womack	sen32@legis.la.gov	(318) 744-0005
Region 7	Shreveport Area	
Gregory Tarver	tarverg@legis.la.gov	(318) 227-1499
Region 8	Monroe Area	
Glen Womack	sen32@legis.la.gov	(318) 744-0005
Region 9	Hammond/Northshore Area	
Chairman Only (see top of list)		
Region 10	Jefferson/New Orleans Area	
Cameron Henry	henryc@legis.la.gov	(504) 838-5433

Committee Members are sorted by region. Find your region!

Louisiana Regions

