



NEW UPDATE Action Alert #3 Requiring Cameras in Special Education Classrooms is Back on the Agenda of the Senate Education Committee!

May 5, 2021



Thursday, May 6th Senate Education meets upon adjournment of the Senate to discuss Senator Foil's bill ([SB86](#)).

The Senate Education committee met last week to discuss [SB86](#), which would require cameras to be installed in self-contained special education classrooms upon request. Senator Foil requested the committee defer his bill so he may continue collaborating with stakeholders on potential amendments. Now this issue is back on the Senate Education Committee's [agenda](#), and it's time for your voice to be heard!

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 challenging student behavior.

If [requiring cameras in special education classrooms upon request](#) is important to you or someone you know, **continue reaching out to the Chair and committee members!**

How to Take Action

Share your personal story and explain how this issue would affect you, your family or someone you know.

1. **Email or call** the Chair and members of the Senate Education Committee before the committee meets again Thursday, May 6th! Find your member of the Senate Education Committee at the end of this alert.

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 Education Committee!

All Regions	Committee Chair	
Cleo Fields	sen14@legis.la.gov / cfields@legis.la.gov	(225) 342-9514
Region 1	New Orleans Area	
Chairman Only (see top of list)		
Region 2	Baton Rouge Area	
Cleo Fields (Chair)	sen14@legis.la.gov / cfields@legis.la.gov	(225) 342-9514
Mack "Bodi" White Jr.	whitem@legis.la.gov	(225) 272-1324
Region 3	Houma/Thibodaux Area	
Chairman Only (see top of list)		
Region 4	Lafayette Area	
Mark Abraham	abrahamm@legis.la.gov	(337) 475-3016
Region 5	Lake Charles Area	
Mark Abraham	abrahamm@legis.la.gov	(337) 475-3016
Region 6	Alexandria Area	
Katrina Jackson (Vice-Chair)	jacksonk@legis.la.gov	(318) 343-2877
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Beth Mizell	mizellb@legis.la.gov	(985) 839-3936
Region 10	Jefferson/New Orleans Area	
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