



## Action Alert #7 Dental Coverage for Adults with I/DD is Headed to House Appropriations Committee!

May 7, 2021



HB172 by Representative Butler sailed out of the House Health & Welfare committee on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Due to the bills fiscal note, it now heads to House Appropriations for consideration!

**Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>** House Appropriations meets at 9 AM to discuss [HB172](#) by Representative Butler ([Agenda](#))

The Louisiana Dental Task Force for Adults with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (I/DD) has met monthly to discuss the lack of adequate dental care available to adults with I/DD. While Medicaid does offer limited dental services, those options are insufficient to meet the needs of individuals especially those who require anesthesia or IV sedation. HB172 would begin to address this issue by requiring the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to ensure Medicaid coverage for comprehensive dental care is provided to adults who are enrolled in any Medicaid waiver program for persons with I/DD.

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

**NOW** is the time to let House Appropriations know why funding to ensure adults with I/DD have access to comprehensive dental!

### 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 House Appropriations Committee by Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>! Find your member of the House Appropriations Committee at the end of this alert.
2. **Email** [h-app@legis.la.gov](mailto:h-app@legis.la.gov) your public comments about HB172:
  - Only comments submitted by Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, by 11:59 AM 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](mailto:info@laddc.org)

website: [www.lacanadvocates.org](http://www.lacanadvocates.org)

facebook: [www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil)

twitter: [www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil](https://www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil)

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Louisiana Developmental  
Disabilities Council

Find your member of the House Appropriations Committee!

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Committee Members are sorted by region. Find your region!

# Louisiana Regions

