



## Action Alert #15

# Senate Finance to Hear Public Testimony on FY24 Budget

May 19, 2023

**Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 9:00 AM**, Senate Finance will hear public testimony on the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024 ([HB1](#)) passed by the House ([Agenda](#)). Unfortunately, two issues LaCAN has been advocating for during this session are still not currently funded in the proposed budget:

1. [Recurring Funding for Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers](#) - During the last two legislative sessions, an additional \$500,000 in state general fund (SGF) was added to the Council's budget specifically for FHF Centers. The Council's request to include this additional funding in its Fiscal Year 2024 budget was denied leaving Center's in an unfortunate situation.
2. [Fund New & Existing Postsecondary Inclusive Education Programs for Students with I/DD](#) - During the last legislative session, the Inclusive Postsecondary Inclusive Education Fund was established. An additional \$3 million in one-time funding is needed to help expand current programs and increase program availability across the state.

Now is the time to let members of Senate Finance know how important our FHF Centers are!

### How to Take Action

Share your personal story and explain how you or someone you may know have been or will be impacted by any of the issues above.

1. **Email or call** the Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee *before the committee meets* Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>! Find your member(s) of the Senate Finance Committee at the end of this alert.
2. **Email** [sfnce@legis.la.gov](mailto:sfnce@legis.la.gov) your public comments about the budget:
  - Only statements emailed to the address above and received *at least 4 hours prior to the meeting* will be included in the meeting record.
  - With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address and bill number (HB1). Don't forget to thank the committee for supporting the needs of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).
3. **Attend Yellow Shirt Day!**
  - WHEN: Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 AM
  - WHERE: Louisiana State Capitol in Senate Room A-B

This is a chance for you to share your story in-person before committee. It's also important for LaCAN to fill the committee room with yellow shirts to show how important these issues are to the I/DD community. If you plan to attend, want to share your story before the committee, need a yellow shirt and/or want to find out about carpooling options, contact your [LaCAN Leader](#).

**Make sure you arrive early so you can get a seat in the committee room!**

For those who are unable to attend meetings in person, the committee meeting will be live streamed on the [legislature's website](#). When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon to access the broadcast.

## 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.

## 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](#)

## 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](http://www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil)

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

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Louisiana Developmental  
Disabilities Council

Find your member of the Senate Finance Committee!

<b>All Regions</b>	<b>Committee Chair</b>	
Mack "Bodi" White Jr.	<a href="mailto:whitem@legis.la.gov">whitem@legis.la.gov</a>	(225) 272-1324
<b>Region 1</b>	<b>New Orleans Area</b>	
Jimmy Harris	<a href="mailto:harrisj@legis.la.gov">harrisj@legis.la.gov</a>	(504) 243-1960
Cameron Henry	<a href="mailto:henryc@legis.la.gov">henryc@legis.la.gov</a>	(504) 838-5433
<b>Region 2</b>	<b>Baton Rouge / Capital Area</b>	
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Mack "Bodi" White Jr. (Chair)	<a href="mailto:whitem@legis.la.gov">whitem@legis.la.gov</a>	(225) 272-1324
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<b>Region 4</b>	<b>Lafayette / Acadiana Area</b>	
Mark Abraham	<a href="mailto:abrahamm@legis.la.gov">abrahamm@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 475-3016
Gerald Boudreaux	<a href="mailto:boudreauxg@legis.la.gov">boudreauxg@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 267-7520
Heather Cloud (Vice-Chair)	<a href="mailto:sen28@legis.la.gov">sen28@legis.la.gov</a>	(337) 461-2595
<b>Region 5</b>	<b>Lake Charles / Southwest LA Area</b>	
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<b>Region 7</b>	<b>Shreveport / Northwest LA Area</b>	
Barry Milligan	<a href="mailto:sen38@legis.la.gov">sen38@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 862-3100
Gregory Tarver	<a href="mailto:tarverg@legis.la.gov">tarverg@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 227-1499
<b>Region 8</b>	<b>Monroe / Northeast LA Area</b>	
Glen Womack	<a href="mailto:sen32@legis.la.gov">sen32@legis.la.gov</a>	(318) 744-0005
<b>Region 9</b>	<b>Hammond / Northshore Area</b>	
Chairman Only (see top of list)		
<b>Region 10</b>	<b>Jefferson / New Orleans Area</b>	
Cameron Henry	<a href="mailto:henryc@legis.la.gov">henryc@legis.la.gov</a>	(504) 838-5433

Committee Members are sorted by region. Find your region below!

# Louisiana Regions

