

Action Alert #11 Public Testimony Day in Senate Finance

May 16, 2025



The state's budget bill for next year (<u>HB1</u>) has passed the House with changes, also known as amendments, and will now go to the Senate Finance Committee. They want to hear your thoughts on **Public Testimony Day**, which will be next **Thursday**, **May 22nd**, at **9:30 AM**.

Currently, HB1 **does not cut** any funding for disability services! However, the committee still needs to know how important these services are as they make their own changes to the state's budget.

There is also a second budget bill, <u>HB460</u>, which restores \$250,000 for Families Helping Families (FHF) Regional Resource Centers. While we're grateful for this funding, an **additional \$250,000** is needed to **fully fund** these centers.

For more details on these funding issues, check out the fact sheets below:

- Recurring Funding for Families Helping Families Regional Resource Centers
- Protect Disability Services

Please contact Senate Finance today, and join us for Yellow Shirt Day next Thursday!

How to Take Action

Tell Senate Finance Committee about your own experiences with any of the issues above. Share your ideas about what things you feel should be funded next year.

Email or call the Chair and members of the Senate Finance Committee before they hear Public Testimony on Thursday, May 22nd.

- Find the contact information for the Chair and your member(s) of Senate Finance at the end of this alert.
- With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address, bill number (HB1) and what issue(s) you are writing about.
- Don't forget to thank the Chair and members for thinking about the needs of the disability community.

Email sfnce@legis.la.gov your public comments about the budget by Thursday, May 22nd

- With your comments, please include your name, address, phone number, email address, bill number (HB1) and what issue(s) you are writing about.
- Don't forget to thank the committee for thinking about the needs of the disability community.

Attend Yellow Shirt Day

- Thursday, May 22nd at 9:30 AM (Agenda)
- Louisiana State Capitol Senate Committee Room A-B
- Be sure to arrive early so you can get a seat in the committee room

Contact your <u>LaCAN Leader</u> if you need help with this alert or would like more information about Public Testimony and Yellow Day.

Can't make it for Yellow Shirt Day? You can watch the committee meeting(s) live from the <u>legislature's</u> <u>website</u>. When the meeting is in progress, click the camera icon.

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 <u>Advocacy 101</u> 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

website: www.lacanadvocates.org

facebook: www.facebook.com/LaDDCouncil twitter: www.twitter.com/LaDDCouncil

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Find your member of the Senate Finance Committee!

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Region 10	Jefferson / New Orleans Area	
Chairman Only (see top of list)		

