

ISSUE  <i>*Denotes Funding Needed, but many issues below may have a funding component</i>	TOTAL YES	TOTAL YES	1	2	3	4	5
<b>Home &amp; Community Based Services</b>	State-wide	Leg Fix?	Priority Rating				
<b>Healthcare Access</b>							
• Expand Medicaid to:*							
○ Incontinence supplies (diapers, wipes and other related supplies)	8	8	3	1	2	2	0
○ Vision Care for all ages (currently stops at age 21)	7	7	1	1	2	2	1
○ Medical Formula and Prescribed Compounded Vitamins (not covered by private insurance or Medicaid)	7	6	1	1	2	1	1
• Address Medicaid Access issues							
○ State insurance services for diagnosis other than Autism	8	6	0	1	3	1	2
• Incentivize providers to fill voids in areas where families must go out of town to see a specialist *	8	4	0	1	1	0	2
• ABA therapy provided through private insurance	8	6	0	1	2	1	2
• Dental Coverage for adults for FY2023 (\$5 Million for Act 450) *	8	8	4	0	0	1	1
• Development of a statewide, comprehensive system to help children be identified and screened for autism *	8	4	1	0	0	0	2
• Establish crisis intervention beds dedicated for those with disabilities in mental health crisis (individuals are spending days in ER because facility not available) *	8	6	3	1	1	1	1
<b>Access to/Issues with Implementation of SUN Screening/Tiered Waiver/CFSS</b>							
• HCBS providers (rate increase) *							
○ Support coordination rates	7	6	1	0	2	1	2
○ Waivers rates	7	5	1	0	2	1	1
○ Direct Support Professionals (DSP) wage increase (living wage according to federal standards)	8	7	3	0	2	1	1
○ Base Rate Increase for Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)	8	6	3	0	1	1	1
○ Managed In-home care and Companion Care (ROW)	7	4	1	1	0	1	1
○ DSP overtime pay for situations that are out of the employers control	8	5	0	1	3	1	0
• Lack of Direct Support Professionals (DSPs)	8	3	2	0	0	0	1
• Continuation of Appendix K Exceptions specifically parent/caregiver as DSP (parents reporting difficulty finding workers especially vaccinated workers)	8	6	4	1	0	0	1
• Support Service Professional (SSP for deaf/blind community) hours limited - advocacy and recreation are not included	7	4	1	0	1	1	1

• Move TEFRA-like program into existence (currently waiting on CMS approval to make TEFRA a state plan option. Funding would be needed to address wait list had this been a new waiver) *	8	5	2	1	1	0	1
• Establish an accelerated process (remove prior authorizations; just have an authorized list) for obtaining repairs to critical equipment for individuals on the NOW waiver. Notate safety critical equipment and how it will be repaired/replaced in CPOCs	7	7	2	1	1	2	0
• Improve the inspection and enforcement of established requirements of Freedom of Choice providers (ex. having trained backup DSPs)	7	4	1	0	1	1	1
• Prevent providers in the Freedom of Choice (FOC) Provider Listing from not accepting clients because of the severity of their disability or the level of care required	8	4	0	1	2	0	1
• Establish a process for reimbursing clients for cost of services that they are eligible for under the NOW but are not available by a Freedom of Choice provider such as skilled nursing *	7	5	0	1	1	2	0
• Cover the cost for nursing handover (i.e., paying two DSPs simultaneously) when changing shifts for medically needy clients *	5	4	0	1	0	1	1
• State Personal Assistance Services (SPAS) *	7	7	1	1	3	2	0
• Human Services Districts/Authorities (LGEs) *							
o Equitable Funding for LGEs	7	7	1	1	2	1	1
o Additional funding for Individual and Family Support Program (IFS)	8	8	1	1	3	0	3
o Continue LGE funding for Flexible Family Fund (FFF)	8	8	2	0	3	3	0
• Establish a requirement for the state to fund overtime for situations that are out of the employers/employees control *	6	6	0	1	1	3	0
• Support for new <i>federal</i> HCBS legislation for caregiver tax deduction and expenses in tax credit/returns	7	2	0	1	1	0	0
• Establish a requirement that provides for long-term Person Centered Planning for all NOW clients	8	4	0	0	1	0	3
<b>Housing</b>							
• Affordable and accessible housing for people with DD	8	5	1	1	1	0	2
<b>Protections &amp; Rights</b>							
• State-level DD Identification (ID) designation (identify individuals when ID# or license plate gets run) *	7	7	0	1	1	3	2
• Public Awareness Campaign for elopement and autism (i.e. what are they, what do they look like, how to handle/approach the person, etc.) *	8	4	0	1	1	0	2
• "ASD ON BOARD" tags for cars that transport those with Autism in the event of accidents where a person would be at risk and unable to communicate *	7	4	0	0	0	1	3
• Virtual meetings mandated to continue with means of public input - governmental organizations	8	5	2	1	1	1	0
• Health care benefits including dental/vision, etc. for DSPs	6	2	0	0	0	0	2

<b>Transportation</b>							
• Economical and reliable transportation to meet needs for those with disabilities in all areas including rural areas	8	4	2	1	0	1	0
• Need changes to non-emergency transportation services program policies to improve access and quality for families	8	6	1	2	1	2	0
<b>Disaster Response / Emergency Preparedness</b>							
• Disaster related 1-stop shop for rapid response system and resources	7	5	1	2	0	0	2
• Emergency preparedness – issues or gaps in services	7	5	1	2	1	0	1
• Disaster relief for families specifically separate from the general disaster relief process so they don't have to go without meds/shelter/needs	6	6	1	1	1	0	3
• Establish regulations identifying pharmacies as safety critical and as such must remain open an established time prior to and after hurricane landfall and continue to remain open once certain criteria are met	5	3	0	1	1	0	1
• Pandemic disaster response plans for DD population (i.e. it is not okay to house at-risk/high-risk populations with COVID patients in medical shelters) - <b>Some of this may be addressed via Council initiatives in FY22 with Niagara University</b>	6	5	1	1	2	0	1
• Reinstate utility prioritization during disaster outages for those with DD	6	4	1	0	1	0	2
• First responder kits when taking calls for lost/found children who meet certain criteria which can include quick info on communication/not setting off a meltdown, FHF flyers/pamphlets to give to families to help connect them to services	6	2	0	0	1	0	1
• In emergencies provide additional funding for DSPs working with clients as they complete additional forms like FEMA, DSNAP, cleaning house/refrigerator, plan for ER, etc.	5	3	0	1	1	1	0
<b>EarlySteps</b>							
• Loosen Early Steps criteria to include children with speech concerns (ex. some of those children end up having autism)	8	5	0	2	1	2	0
<b>Training For:</b>							
• Direct Support Workers - certification/accreditation and/or training incentives *	8	4	0	1	0	0	3
• Direct Support Workers with stakeholder involvement *	6	4	0	1	0	1	1
• Civil Servants (revised HB317 to include teachers, fire dept. etc.) *	6	6	1	0	2	1	1
• Dispatchers (ppl who give information to first responders) *	6	4	0	0	2	1	1
• Child Protective Services (CPS) with regard to DD population in contract to neglect calls (i.e. how autism households may be different than non-autism households) *	7	5	0	0	3	0	2

<b>Education</b>							
<b>Behavior</b>							
• Cameras in special education classrooms							
o Funding for implementation *	8	8	6	0	0	0	2
o Data and accountability (addressing some language in the act)	8	6	4	1	0	0	1
• Removal of SROs completely (no SRO used in school discipline situations)	5	3	2	0	1	0	0
• "Handle with Care" protocols at some levels are inappropriate for students with special needs specifically "Release hold& PRT steps" (needs to be taken out)	4	5	2	0	0	0	1
• Prohibit calling police/use of police for handling of SPED related issues	7	3	1	0	1	0	1
<b>Access to Services / Implementation Issues</b>							
• Need more requirements for specialized interventions for students with dyslexia	7	6	1	1	1	0	2
• Address shortage of SPED teachers	8	4	1	0	0	1	2
• Allowing ABA/other therapists into the schools - close the loopholes especially relative to pandemic	7	3	0	1	1	0	1
• Revamp process for IEPs where long-term/permanent DD related medical diagnosis are not overlooked by schools and they receive they help that is required by medical evidence	6	3	0	1	0	0	1
• Monetary penalty for failure to implement the IEP	7	5	1	1	2	0	1
• Standardize Virtual School (each LEA has different implementation, different ways to demo learning and resources: internet access, technology, related services) and ensure IEP applied for all students who have them	7	4	1	0	1	1	1
• School monitoring and accountability (are schools being monitored for compliance)	8	5	1	2	1	0	1
• Seclusion and restraint regulations to follow the language of the federal bill	7	4	1	1	0	1	1
<b>Training For:</b>							
• School Resource Officers (SROs) specifically with regard to DD students/special needs, behavior plans/IEP basics *	8	6	1	2	2	0	1
• Teachers on sensory based disorders and other behavior related aspects of the DD population (mandatory training) *	7	4	0	2	1	0	1
• SPED teachers - teachers not trained in SPED forced to teach the class and told they have to pay for the training and complete on their own time *	4	3	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Transportation</b>							
• Eliminate the transfer/bus exchange for students with special needs	4	1	0	0	0	0	1
• Limit time spent on the bus for students with special needs	3	1	0	1	0	0	0
• Accountability for existing protocols with regards to transportation needs for students with special needs that may not be followed	5	3	0	0	1	1	1

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use identifiers on bus riders to help identify student, school, bus assignment, home address to prevent students becoming lost/placed on wrong bus</li> </ul>	4	2	0	1	0	0	1
<b>Employment</b>							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virtual job training for students and individuals with disabilities</li> </ul>	7	3	0	1	1	0	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supported Employment for students and individuals with disabilities</li> </ul>	8	4	1	1	1	0	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment Opportunities for individuals with DD</li> </ul>	5	2	0	0	0	0	0
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fair Labor Standards Act - paying fair wages</li> </ul>	6	5	1	0	0	3	1