



# Legislative and Public Policy Committee Updates

Presented by

Julie Austin, Chair, Legislative and Public Policy Committee

Cindy Smith, Deputy Director, Policy and Public Affairs

# Legislative and Public Policy Committee

## Members (1/2)

- **Julie Austin**, Chair, Family Advocate, San Diego Imperial Region Representative (Imperial and San Diego Counties)
- **Diane Ambrose**, Family Advocate, At-Large Representative
- **Matthew Lagrand**, Self-Advocate, Sequoia Representative (Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, and Tulare Counties)
- **Connie Lapin**, Appointed Community Member

# Legislative and Public Policy Committee Members (2/2)

- **Janelle Lewis**, Appointed Community Member and former Committee Chair
- **Julie Neward**, Non-Governmental Representative
- **Andrea Vergne**, Family Advocate, At-Large Representative
- **Wesley Witherspoon**, Self-Advocate, At-Large Representative

# Legislative and Public Policy Committee Staff

- Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director
- Cindy Smith, Deputy Director for Policy and Public Affairs
- Michael McNulty, Analyst, Policy
- Robin Maitino-Erben, Committee Specialist

# Legislative and Public Policy Committee Responsibilities from Bylaws (1/2)

- Review, comment and recommend positions on significant proposed legislation, proposed regulations, policies, procedures, or practices.
  - Sponsor, Support, Watch, Oppose, or No Action
- Recommend legislation, regulations, policies, procedures or practices consistent with Council's responsibilities and objectives. Specifically action on establishing and implementing policy priorities.

# Legislative and Public Policy Committee Responsibilities from Bylaws (2/2)

- Identify and recommend potential Council projects or coordinated action on issues consistent with Council responsibilities and objectives.
- Provide testimony and recommendations to the Legislature with regard to matters pertaining to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities on positions taken by the Council.

# 2019 Legislative Highlights (1/2)

- The Legislative and Public Policy Committee completed a successful day at the Capitol meeting and educating Legislators on May 9, 2019.
  - 7 Committee Members participated in Capitol Day.
  - 10 + Meetings with State Legislators or their staff.

# 2019 Legislative Highlights (2/2)

- Council Member Wesley Witherspoon testified in support for Council sponsored AB 1169 with Assembly Member Jim Frazier in the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation.
- Council Member Charles Nutt testified in support AB 477 with Assembly Member Sabrina Cervantes in the Senate Committee on Governmental Organizations.





# 2019 Complete Legislative Summary

## **Employment (2 x Sponsored\* & 1 x Supported)**

- AB 365, AB 1019\*, AB 1169\*

## **Education (4 x Supported)**

- AB 34, AB 216, AB 1172

## **Housing (3 x Supported)**

- AB 192, SB 50, SB 329

## **Health and Safety (8 x Supported)**

- AB 477, AB 536, AB 640, AB 823, AB 1764, SB 338, SB 398, SB 512

## **Informal and Formal Community Supports (10 x Supported & 1 x Opposed)**

- AB 261, AB 311, AB 736, AB 813, AB 999, AB 1136, AB 1170, AB 1295, AB 1434, AB 1643, SB 412

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (1/6)

## **Employment**

- AB 1019 (Sponsored)
  - This bill would add the Director of Rehabilitation and the Executive Director of the State Council on Developmental Disabilities to the Interagency Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship.
  - Submitted 3 Support Letters | Bill Moved on Consent No Testimony Needed
- AB 365 (Support)
  - This bill would address barriers and implement recommendations to the Limited Examination and Appointment Program (LEAP) to increase employment for persons with disabilities in state civil service.
  - Submitted 2 Support Letters | Testimony provided by Cindy Smith

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (2/6)

## Education

- AB 34 (Support)
  - This bill would require local educational agencies to ensure information on bullying and harassment prevention is accessible in a prominent location on the local educational agency's existing website.
  - Submitted 2 Support Letters
- AB 1172 (Support)
  - This bill would protect students attending nonpublic schools by adding additional safeguards to enhance student safety.
  - Submitted 3 Support Letters | Testimony provided by Cindy Smith

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (3/6)

## **Housing**

- SB 329 (Support)
  - This bill would amend the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to clarify that housing vouchers are included within California's prohibition on discrimination based on source of income.
  - Submitted 2 Support Letters | Testimony provided by Michael McNulty

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (4/6)

## Health and Safety Legislation

- AB 477 (Support)
  - This bill would require cities and counties to include representatives from the access and functional needs population in the next regular update to their emergency planning process.
  - Submitted 4 Support Letters | Testimony provided by Council Member Charles Nutt
- AB 640 (Support)
  - This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services training course include education on the investigation and prosecution of sexual abuse cases involving victims with developmental disabilities.
  - Submitted 1 Support Letter
- SB 338 (Support)
  - This bill would, through strong, accountable policy direction and training, should bring about a major change in law enforcement agencies' ability to enforce the existing laws and use the existing tools to protect people with disabilities
  - Submitted 1 Support Letter | Testimony provided by Cindy Smith

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (5/6)

## **Heath and Safety Legislation (Continued)**

- SB 398 (Support)
  - This bill would update California statute on the access authority of the state's Protection and Advocacy (P&A) System to conform to the changes made to federal regulations implementing the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 (DD Act).
  - Submitted 3 Support Letters | Testimony provided by Michael McNulty
- SB 512 (Support)
  - This bill would establish the California Long-Term Services and Supports Benefits Board (LTSS Board).
  - Submitted 1 Support Letter | Testimony provided by Cindy Smith

# 2019 Currently Active Bill Status (6/6)

## **Formal and Informal Community Supports**

- SB 412 (Support)
  - This bill would repeal provisions relating to regional center fees.
  - Submitted 2 Support Letters

# State Budget 2019-2020

- The total budget is \$214 billion dollars.
  - The Health and Human Services portion of the budget is \$67.1 billion dollars.
    - The Department of Developmental Services is 7.5 percent of the \$67.1 billion.
    - The Department of Social Services is 14.9 percent of the \$67.1 billion.
    - Health and human services programs provide services in the areas of healthcare, mental health, income assistance, social services, and assistance to people with disabilities.
  - The K-12 portion of the budget is \$60.1 billion.
  - The Labor and Workforce portion of the budget is \$1.0 billion .
- The budget amounts do not include federal funding.



# State Budget 2019-2020

- The DDS Budget includes \$206.7 million in 2019-20 and \$413.3 million in 2020-21 to provide supplemental rate increases to providers across multiple service categories.
  - The increased funding provides a increase of up to 8.2 percent for service categories identified in the Rate Study (submitted to the Legislature in March 2019.)The rate increase sunsets in two years. The increases take effect January 1, 2020.
- The Budget includes \$8.1 million ongoing for a reorganization of DDS to strengthen oversight and monitoring of regional centers and provider operations and enhance program compliance.
- The Budget includes \$5.3 million and \$7.9 million annually thereafter to expand crisis services to the Central Valley.
- The Budget includes \$4.5 million one-time General Fund to develop community crisis housing specifically for children.

# State Budget 2019-2020

- The Budget Trailer Bill for DDS (SB 81) includes the following requirements:
  - By January 10, 2020, DDS shall submit to the Legislature an updated version of the safety net plan. The updated plan shall be developed in consultation with stakeholders.
  - Through the Developmental Services Task Force, DDS shall identify local and statewide indicators to track the regional center system's delivery of services. These indicators shall include a recommendation for analysis and follow-up of any concerning trends and a plan for reporting of best practices for use statewide. With stakeholder input, DDS shall also identify recommendations for measuring and improving outcomes.
  - Each regional center shall post data related to Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Final Rule compliance on its internet website by April 1, 2020 and shall update the information until DDS determines statewide compliance with the Rule.

# State Budget 2019-2020

- The Budget Trailer Bill for DDS (SB 81) includes the following requirements:
  - Beginning in the summer of 2019, DDS shall consult with a broad and balanced group of stakeholders to discuss system reforms, including fiscal reforms, to better serve individuals with developmental disabilities. The focus of this discussion shall be on how to create a sustainable, innovative, cost-effective, consumer-focused, and outcomes-based service delivery system.
  - DDS shall create, with input from stakeholders, standardized information packets to be provided to any person seeking services from a regional center. The information packets shall be translated to provide language access.
  - Beginning on January 10, 2020, DDS shall update the Legislature annually with the number of complaints filed at each regional center, with the number of fair hearing requests filed and other related data. By October 1, 2019, DDS shall post all new directives that it issues to regional centers on its internet website.

# State Budget 2019-2020

- The Budget provides \$120 million General Fund in 2019-20 and approximately \$115 million annually thereafter as funding for newly eligible CalFresh recipients as a result of expanding CalFresh eligibility to SSI recipients starting on June 1, 2019.
- The Budget includes \$357.6 million General Fund in 2019-20 to restore the 7-percent across-the-board reduction to IHSS service hours. The increased funding will sunset on December 31, 2021.

# Important Upcoming Legislative Dates

- **July 12, 2019** - Summer Recess Begins.
- **August 12, 2019** - Legislature Reconvenes from Summer Recess.
- **September 13, 2019** - Last day for any bill to be passed.  
Interim Recess begins upon adjournment.
- **October 13, 2019** - Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 13 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 13.
- **January 1, 2020** - Statutes take effect.
- **January 6, 2020** - Legislature reconvenes.

# Federal Legislation and Regulations

- SCDD monitors proposed federal policy changes. As a member of the National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities, SCDD follows the lead of our national association when deciding whether to weigh in on a federal policy issue.
- Two recent issues on which SCDD has submitted comment include:
  - Office of Management and Budget's proposal to re-assess which formula to use when determining poverty for means-tested benefits programs.
  - Office of Disability Employment Policy's request for input on importance of competitive integrated employment by people with disabilities and their families.

Questions or Comments?