



NOTICE/AGENDA

CORRECTED AGENDA

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES LEGISLATIVE AND PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

This meeting is being held via teleconference within the meaning of Government Code Section [11123.2](#). Members may be physically present at one or more teleconference locations. There may be members of the public body who are participating in today's meeting that were granted a reasonable accommodation per the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Accessible formats of all agenda and materials can be found online at www.scdd.ca.gov

TELECONFERENCE LOCATION

Los Angeles Regional Office
411 N. Central Ave. Ste 620
Glendale, CA 91203

JOIN BY TELECONFERENCE:

Call-In Number: **(669) 900-9128**
Meeting ID: **859 8718 0333**

JOIN VIA ZOOM:

Meeting ID:

[MAR.2026.LPPC](#)

859 8718 0333

Password:

001984

DATE: March 19, 2026

TIME: 10:30 AM – 3:00 PM

COMMITTEE CHAIR:

Harold Fujita

Item 1. CALL TO ORDER

Item 2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

Item 3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Item 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.

Additionally, there will be up to 5 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

Item 5. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2025 MINUTES  Page 7**Item 6. CONNECTING POLICY AND ADVOCACY TO COMMUNICATIONS: BETTER, STRONGER, TOGETHER** Page 13

Christofer Arroyo, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

Item 7. LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW Page 15

Christofer Arroyo, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

- a. Legislative Process
 - b. SCDD Legislative Policy Priorities
 - i. 2026 Targeted Priorities
-

Item 8. STATE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATES  Page 27

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director & Christofer Arroyo, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

- a. Introduced Bills
 - SCDD Sponsored Legislation:
 - ✓ [AB 2360](#); [SB 1052](#)
 - Bills to Consider Taking a Position On:
 - ✓ Civil Rights: [SB 84](#)*
 - ✓ Education: [AB 1861](#); [AB 2189](#); [SB 244](#)*; [SB 1222](#);
 - ✓ Health: [AB 308](#)*; [AB 350](#)*; [AB 1561](#);
 - ~~[AB 1760](#)~~; [AB 1670](#); [AB 2081](#); [SB 363](#)*; [SB 1226](#)
 - ✓ Informal & Formal Community Supports: [AB 1099](#)*;
 - [AB 1220](#)*; [AB 2209](#); [SB 969](#)
-

Legend:

* = 2 Year Bill

✓ Safety: [SB 837](#)

b. Budget Summary and Principles

Item 9. UPDATES AND STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Page 35

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director &

Christofer Arroyo, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs

- a. Council Updates
 - b. Federal Updates
 - c. DDS Updates
-

Item 10. MEMBER UPDATES

Page 37

All

Item 11. 2026 MEETINGS & ADJOURNMENT

June 23rd, August 25th, & October 13th

Accessibility:

Pursuant to Government Code Sections 11123.1 and 11125(f), individuals with disabilities who require accessible alternative formats of the agenda and related meeting materials and/or auxiliary aids/services to participate in this meeting should contact (916) 263-7919. Requests must be received by 5 business days prior to the meeting. *All times indicated and the order of business are approximate and subject to change.*

Legend:

* = 2 Year Bill

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

March 19, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 4.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

Public Comment

This item is for members of the public to provide comments and/or present information to this body on matters not listed on the agenda. There will be up to 20 minutes allocated to hear from the public with each person allotted up to 3 minutes to comment.

Additionally, there will be up to 5 minutes allocated to hear from the public on each agenda item, with each person allotted up to 1 minute to comment.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

March 19, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 5.

ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

Approval of October 2025

The draft minutes from the October 28, 2025, Legislative and Public Policy Committee meeting have been included in the packet for review. Committee members will vote on whether to approve the minutes.

Attachment(s)

October 2025 Legislative and Public Policy Committee meeting minutes.

Action Recommended

Approve the October 2025 meeting minutes.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



DRAFT

**Legislative and Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2025**

Attending Members

Bob Twomey (FA)
Jessica Brown (FA)
Julie Neward (FA)
Lupe Rodriguez (FA)
Nicole Adler (SA)

Members Absent

Andy Imparato (DRC)
Harold Fujita (FA)
Irene Valdez (FA)
Lee Bycel (FA)

Others Attending

Austin Murphy
Brian Hoang
Christofer Arroyo
David Delgado
Robin Maitino-Erben
Samindra Wijesiriwardane
Veronica Bravo

1. CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Committee Chair Harold Fujita [FA], Deputy Director Christofer Arroyo appointed Lupe Rodriguez [FA] to act as Chair pro tempore for the remainder of the meeting. Chair Pro Tem Lupe Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

2. ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

3. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Members and others in attendance introduced themselves.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments from members of the public.

Manager of Business Ops and Committee Supports, Robin Maitino-Erben introduced Samindra, the new Business Operations

Legend:
SA = Self-Advocate
FA = Family Advocate
DRC = Disability Rights California

and Logistics Analyst, who shared his background in retail management spanning over 23 years.

5. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2025 MEETING MINUTES

It was moved/seconded (Brown [FA]/Neward [FA]) and carried to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes as presented. (Motion passed unanimously. [See page one for a record of members present]).

6. STATE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATES

Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Christofer Arroyo presented an end-of-year review of all bills the Council had taken positions on during the first year of the legislative session, organized by subject area. The Council took positions on 19 bills, supporting 18 and opposing one.

Bills signed into law included:

AB 784, AB 951, AB 1172, SB 373, SB 389, SB 470, and SB 671.

Bill(s) vetoed:

AB 1225.

Bill(s) Council opposed:

SB 84, died in committee

Bills that did not advance or became two-year bills included:

AB 308, AB 315, AB 350, AB 517, AB 974, AB 1099, AB 1220, SB 244, SB 363, and SB 422.

During discussion, members asked about the Governor's veto message for AB 1225, and Mr. Arroyo indicated he would look it up and provide it to the committee.

There was no budget update, as no new information had been received since the previous meeting.

7. 2026 LEGISLATIVE PLANNING

There Should Be a Law Contest Report

Deputy Director Arroyo reported on the fifth annual contest, which received over 150 submissions, and noted that the contest timeline

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate

FA = Family Advocate

DRC = Disability Rights California

was moved earlier based on legislator feedback that ideas should be presented by late October or early November. The Council approved six legislative and policy ideas: plain language materials from government agencies, chronic absenteeism in schools, clarifying the authorized representative process under the Lanterman Act, protected paid leave for sibling bonding, fingerprinting requirements for off-campus student work programs, and the SSI marriage penalty.

Members commended the earlier timeline and asked how staff prioritize ideas from such a large pool. Deputy Director Arroyo explained the process includes alignment with the State Plan, Council core values, community survey data, and pragmatic factors such as likelihood of passage and available resources.

2026 Policy Priorities

Deputy Director Arroyo presented the updated policy priorities document for the committee's review and consideration to the Council. The document included minor corrections and a new section titled "Ensuring Federal Policies and Laws Advance Inclusion and Self-Determination," grounded in the federal DD Act.

Members raised concerns about the lack of inclusive education for students with IDD and emphasized the importance of building alliances with school site councils and local leaders. Deputy Director Arroyo discussed strategies including capacity building, legislative advocacy, and collaboration with the Department of Education.

It was moved/seconded (Twomey [FA]/Brown [FA]) and carried to recommend that the Council adopt the 2026 policy priorities document as presented. (Motion passed unanimously. [See page one for a record of members present]).

2026 Policy Theme

Deputy Director Arroyo facilitated a discussion on the 2026 theme, presenting several options. Members expressed support for "Better, Stronger Together" as the strongest and most accessible option.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate

FA = Family Advocate

DRC = Disability Rights California

It was moved/seconded (Neward [FA]/Adler [SA]) and carried to recommend "Better, Stronger Together" as the 2026 theme to the Council for approval. (Motion passed unanimously. [See page one for a record of members present]).

8. UPDATES AND STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

Deputy Director Arroyo confirmed that the policy priorities document and theme recommendation would be presented to the Council at the November meeting. He reported that the federal government shutdown was the primary concern, with SNAP (CalFresh) expected to be impacted. Staff were preparing an e-blast and connecting with local food bank resources. He also noted that NACDD had issued a statement condemning the Federal Department of Education's lack of enforcement regarding special education.

Staff member Maitino-Erben directed members to the hyperlinks in the packet for DDS initiative updates and informed the committee that SB 471 was signed into law on October 1. Mr. Arroyo noted DDS's ongoing work on a new data collection system.

9. MEMBER UPDATES

Committee member Julie Neward [FA] reported on her work with the San Diego County Committee for Persons with Disabilities, which is prioritizing emergency response services. She also noted plans to collaborate with the local SCDD office following Yolanda Cruz's relocation to San Diego.

Committee member Jessica Brown [FA] shared that she attended a Regional Center meeting about replacing the LOIS data system. Key community feedback included the need for transparency in service request workflows, a portal similar to MyChart for tracking requests, and searchable provider directories with filters for location and services. The replacement system will be statewide and developed by an outside vendor.

10. 2026 MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT

Chair Pro Tem Lupe Rodriguez stated that the 2026 LPPC meeting dates would be announced soon. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.

Legend:

SA = Self-Advocate

FA = Family Advocate

DRC = Disability Rights California

March 19, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 6.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

***Connecting Policy and Advocacy to Communications:
Better, Stronger, Together***

Deputy Director Christofer Arroyo will explain how the Council's policy and advocacy work connects to and shapes the Council's communications.

Attachment(s)

None

Handout(s)

May be additional handout(s) the day of the meeting.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

March 19, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 7.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

Legislative Overview

Deputy Director Christofer Arroyo will provide an overview of the legislative process and explain how the Council uses the State Plan to establish its policy priorities. He will also describe how those priorities guide the development of targeted priorities.

Attachment(s)

Plain Language Legislative Process Diagram
SCDD 2022-2026 State Plan
SCDD 2025-2026 Policy Priorities
SCDD 2026 Legislative Proposals

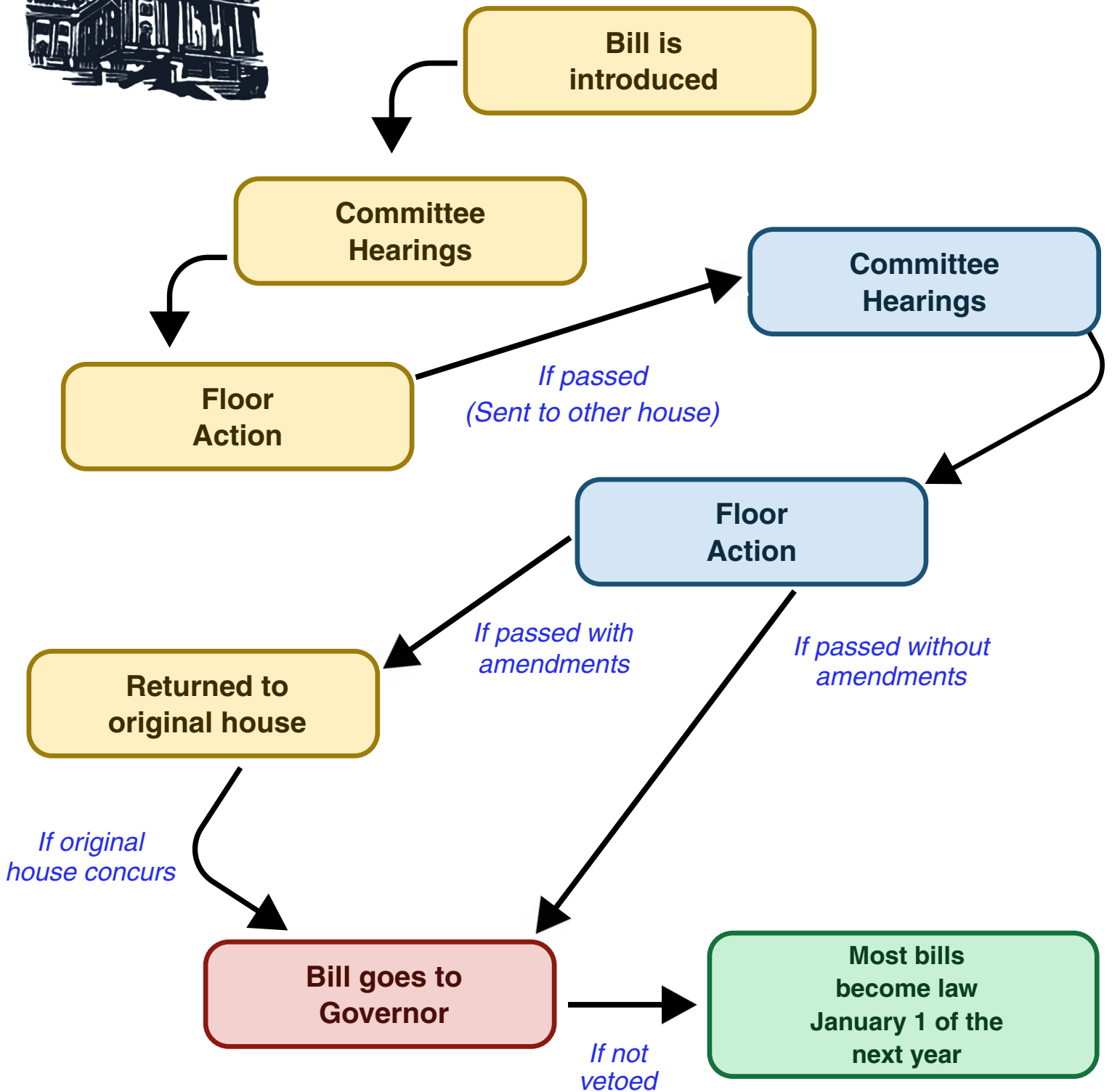
Handout(s)

May be additional handout(s) the day of the meeting.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



How a Bill Becomes a Law



THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

2022-26 State Plan

Goal 1: Self-Advocacy

By 2026, the Council will maintain and/or increase the number of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities to become strong self-advocates, peer trainers and community leaders.

Objectives

1.1

The Council will provide information and resources through 300 regional/statewide self-advocacy chats, 40 regional/statewide projects/events and 200 trainings to strengthen 15,000 self-advocates in:

- 1) Achieving self-governance with supports, as requested;
- 2) Identifying and asking for the supports and services that they need;
- 3) Becoming and serving as peer trainers;
- 4) Developing skills and opportunities to engage as strong activists for issues that are important to them and their families; and,
- 5) Participating in culturally diverse, cross-disability coalitions.

1.2

The Council will collaborate with and/or support self-advocates in peer networks, including culturally diverse, cross-disability coalitions, by providing facilitation, tangible supports and peer advocacy/leadership opportunities through at least 1 statewide and 12 regional self-advocacy entities, reaching 6,000 self-advocates.

1.3

In the event of unforeseen project opportunities, emerging needs, and/or community, cross-regional or statewide requests, the Council may engage in additional activities with and/or on behalf of self-advocates and those who support and serve them.

Goal 2: Systems Change/Advocacy

By 2026, the Council will lead in partnership with family/self-advocates and others to protect and enhance civil rights to improve community-based systems and be more fully inclusive and supportive of people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

Objectives

2.1

The Council will monitor and collaborate with local, regional and/or statewide entities to develop, improve and/or change 85 practices, 70 policies, and 20 regulations (or guidance), statutes and/or laws in the systems of regional centers, community-based services, and governmental entities. This work will include the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety and/or emerging issues in ways that will benefit people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and protect their civil rights, promote full inclusion, and/or provide additional supports and services, improving their lives in tangible ways.

2.2

The Council will engage in 40 regional and 5 statewide innovative/special projects and/or events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety and/or self-determination to:

- 1)** Support 45,000 people (family/self-advocates and others) in systems change efforts and give them information, skills and/or supports to increase their abilities to become effective advocates;
- 2)** Engage in professional training and/or other efforts to implement systems, demonstrate or support systems change; and/or,
- 3)** Increase services and/or improve supports for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families.

2.3

The Council, in collaboration with California's four (4) partners (one Protection and Advocacy agency and three University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities), will seek to improve the generic service system that impacts people with intellectual/developmental disabilities by choosing one or more areas of emphasis in the State Plan, such as education, employment, housing, and/or health/safety, and report on how that system is serving people with I/DD, gaps in that service delivery system, recommendations on how to improve the systems to meet the goals of the DD Act, and/or pursue policy and practice changes in those areas. The collaboration will result in the review or development of 2 reports, 6 recommendations for policy or practice changes, and 2 Legislative or Administrative changes to policy or practice.

Goal 3: Capacity-Building/Advocacy

By 2026, the Council will increase partnerships with and support of more people with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families, so they know their rights and can advocate for and receive supports and services.

Objectives

3.1

The Council will increase the capacity of 60,000 people with assistance and resources to identify and obtain the supports and services to help people with intellectual/developmental disabilities live a safer and healthier life, by:

- 1.** Establishing and/or collaborating with and supporting 10 family-advocate groups/networks,
- 2.** Providing (staff-led, peer-led and/or collaborative) training to 35,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) throughout the state – virtually, online and/or in person, and
- 3.** Providing technical assistance (TA)/advocacy clinics and/or resources, reaching 25,000 people.

3.2

The Council will engage in 150 projects and events in the areas of employment, education, housing, health/safety, and/or emerging issues, reaching 45,000 people (family/self-advocates/others) with information and resources to enhance their knowledge and increase their capacity to obtain supports and services that are important to them.

3.3

In order to reduce the disparities in obtaining a free, appropriate public education, the Council will work with 5,000 Spanish-speaking family/self-advocates throughout the state to advocate for and increase the number and type/quality of special education services they receive through their own local education agencies.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

Policy Priorities 2025-26

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families have a right to exert control and choice over their own lives, play decision making roles in policies and programs, and be fully integrated into the economic, political, social, cultural and educational mainstream of California.¹ To advance these rights, the State Council on Developmental Disabilities declares these policy priorities.

PROTECTING AND ENHANCING CIVIL RIGHTS

Every person with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) has the right to self-determination, equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency no matter their disability.

The Council will work to ensure civil rights, are protected, and enhanced, including identification and reduction of racial and ethnic inequalities and disparities, advocating for transparency in processes, and supporting persons with IDD and their families to participate in policy/systems change.

ENSURING FEDERAL POLICIES AND LAWS ADVANCE INCLUSION AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Federal law recognizes that individuals with developmental disabilities have the right to make informed choices and decisions about their own lives, live independently, and participate fully in their communities. Further, these values call for providing persons with IDD and their families with the information, skills, opportunities, and supports needed to pursue meaningful and productive lives; contribute to their families, communities, and the nation; and achieve full inclusion in society consistent with their unique strengths and abilities. Federal policies play a crucial role in ensuring robust, community-based systems of services and supports that promote self-determination, independence, productivity, and inclusion.

The Council will work to ensure that information about federal policies and laws that have an impact on persons with IDD and their families is shared in plain language. The Council will also work to ensure that these federal efforts uphold the values of informed choice, independence, and full community participation for all persons with IDD and their families.

GUARANTEEING ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Every student with IDD has the right to a quality inclusive education with their peers that prepares them for post-secondary education and/or competitive integrated employment (CIE). Students with disabilities must be provided the same opportunities for learning, in the classroom and online, as students without disabilities.

Every person with IDD should have the opportunity to be employed in CIE. Individuals must have access to information, benefits counseling, transition planning, job training, career exploration and information and support for inclusive post-secondary education. New or expanded pathways to CIE must be developed and supported, including apprenticeships and internships.

The Council will work to ensure the full and robust implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, California's Employment First Law, and the California Employment First Office. The Council will ensure that policies and practices improve opportunities for and incentivize CIE, encourage supports for employers, and make the state a model employer.

IDENTIFYING & PRIORITIZING EMERGING ISSUES IN THE I/DD COMMUNITY

Every person with a developmental disability should not have to deal with problems that arise due to the emergence of inequality issues in the community. Events in our everyday lives, both due to policy changes and unforeseen events, can cause unintended consequences for the IDD community. These issues must be identified and acted upon swiftly to ensure as little harm as possible is inflicted.

The Council will work to ensure emerging issues including, but not limited to, dealing with disparities across all IDD issues, barriers to participating in a community setting, and roadblocks to access for people with IDD are dealt with through policy changes and by keeping the administration and lawmakers informed about issues.

PROMOTING ACCESS TO QUALITY SUPPORTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Every person with IDD should have the ability to fully participate in their communities. Receiving quality, individualized services is the cornerstone for people with IDD to be safe, healthy and to promote self-determination, interdependence, and inclusion.

Community-based services/supports require adequate wages for providers; therefore, the state must restore rates. Disparities in access, outcomes, and quality of services and supports must be addressed. Complexities in the service delivery systems must be reduced.

The Council will make meaningful improvements to the service delivery system to reduce disparities, increase transparency and accountability and increase quality outcomes by making recommendations to the Master Plan on Developmental Services, and by ensuring successful implementation of the Self-Determination Program and Achieving Better Life Experience Act.

ENSURING SAFETY IN THE COMMUNITY

Every person with I/DD has a right to be safe and must be provided with emergency preparedness training and training in personal safety. Law enforcement personnel, first responders, emergency medical professionals and the judicial system must be trained in how to work with people with IDD (including those who are suspects, victims or witnesses of crimes)

The Council will work to ensure people with I/DD are safe, free from abuse and neglect and have access to services and supports in their communities during all types of disasters or emergencies and an adequate safety net for people in crisis and access to adequate crisis intervention services. The Council will work to improve outcomes of law enforcement interactions with people with IDD.

IMPROVING HOUSING AND COMMUNITY LIVING

Every person with IDD should have the opportunity to live in the community. Permanent, affordable, accessible, safe and sustained housing options must be continually developed. Statewide inclusive living options for individuals with IDD must be increased and enhanced through access to housing and subsidies that are paired in a timely manner with needed services and supports.

The Council will work to identify housing resources for persons with IDD and their families to prevent homelessness and advocate for availability of accessible and affordable housing.

For more information, contact: scdd@scdd.ca.gov | 916-263-7919



Summary of 2026 Bill Ideas

The State Council on Developmental Disabilities (SCDD) is advancing three legislative proposals in 2026 that each address a fundamental barrier to equity, access, and opportunity for Californians with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. These priorities reflect the Council's commitment to ensuring systems are effective, accountable, and responsive to the people they serve.

Ensure Families Separated by Immigration Are Still Able to Get Services from Regional Centers (WIC §4541)

Families have expressed deep concern about what happens if a parent or primary support person is detained, deported, hospitalized, or otherwise unavailable. Current law leaves gaps in how Authorized Representatives are identified and appointed, making it difficult for families to plan for sudden separation, emergencies, or changes in who can support their loved one. The proposal clarifies when an appointment is appropriate, authorizes contingent appointments so families can designate a trusted backup, and provides clear authority for SCDD to set appointment duration. These changes increase stability, continuity, and self-determination while addressing concerns raised by families, especially those worried about potential immigration enforcement or other emergencies.

Require the State to Speak in Plain Language (Gov. Code §6219)

Many Californians struggle to understand government forms, notices, and instructions written in complex or technical terms. This prevents people from accessing benefits, following timelines, and securing services they are entitled to. SCDD's proposal would define plain language in statute, apply it to both print and digital communications, require departments to adopt clear policies, align California with federal accessibility and comprehension standards. When government communicates plainly, people can understand information the first time they read it, resulting in greater access, fewer errors, and improved trust.

Remove a Barrier to Employment (EC §45125.1)

Expanded fingerprinting requirements have sharply reduced work-based learning opportunities for students with disabilities, especially in WorkAbility and other career-development programs. Many employers cannot guarantee a background-checked employee will always be present, resulting in site closures. This proposal allows a parent, guardian, or adult student to consent to a placement in lieu of requiring a background-checked employee at all times. The fix restores access to meaningful work experience while maintaining student safety and informed family choice.

Contact

Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director, aaron.carruthers@scdd.ca.gov, (916) 832-0945

Chris Arroyo, Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs, christofer.arroyo@scdd.ca.gov, (818) 903-1864

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

March 19, 2026

AGENDA ITEM 8.

ACTION ITEM

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

State Legislative and Budget Updates

The goal of this agenda item is to review the bills listed on the agenda and make recommendations on those identified under Agenda Item 8. These recommendations will be brought to the full Council for consideration. Members will be asked to take positions on bills.

To help guide this discussion, staff has included the Council-approved Policy Priorities and 2022-26 State Plan. Any action taken on bills should align with the State Plan and these priorities.

Members will also receive updates on the FY 2026–27 State Budget.

Action Recommended

It is staff’s recommendation that the Committee provide a list of up to 17 legislative bills for Council consideration at the March meeting.

Attachment(s)

Summary of the 2026-2027 Governor’s Proposed State Budget
Guiding Principles for Budget-Related Advocacy

Handout(s)

2026 Bill Position Chart
May be additional handout(s) the day of the meeting.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



SUMMARY OF THE GOVERNOR’S PROPOSED STATE BUDGET 2026-2027

This is an initial summary of the Governor’s May Revise Proposed Budget and details will be added as they develop. (January 9, 2026)

OVERALL BUDGET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While a significant budget shortfall had been anticipated, this budget predicts more than \$42 billion in additional revenue than originally thought. For this reason, a modest projected shortfall of \$2.9 billion is anticipated for 2026-27. • The proposed budget is balanced and includes money the state must set aside for surprise costs (“Rainy Day Fund”). • A shortfall of \$22 billion is anticipated in 2027-28 and shortfalls in the next two years. The budget proposal in May (“May Revise”) will include updated information about revenue and spending to balance the budget through 2027-28.
DDS AND REGIONAL CENTERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is \$21.1 billion allocated to DDS (Department of Developmental Services) for over 527,000 individuals. This is a net increase of \$2.4 billion from last fiscal year and approximately 37,600 individuals. • There is an increase in Medicaid reimbursements, resulting in over \$154 million in savings annually. • Continue planning for the Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS), costing over \$14 million in 2026-27 (same cost as last fiscal year). • Cold shutdown of Fairview Developmental Center saving \$8 million.
HEALTH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HR 1, the passed federal bill that reduces states’ funding, is expected to create \$1.1 billion in additional costs for Medi-Cal and \$300 million for CalFresh. These costs are in addition to typical anticipated growth such as program costs and the number of people who join the program. Overall, there is an increase of \$2.4 billion to Medi-Cal costs for various reasons. • Other impacts from HR 1’s passage include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ a work requirement beginning 1/1/27 with an anticipated reduction of \$373 million in 2026-27 and \$13.1 billion by 2029-2030. ○ a reduction from the federal government that matched funding for emergency services (from 90% to 50%) resulting in \$658 million in additional costs in 2026-27 and \$872 million by 2029-2030. ○ a reduction in federal funding for Medi-Cal for individuals with certain immigration statuses. If the state continued to provide services to these



<p>HEALTH (CONTINUED)</p>	<p>individuals, the costs would be \$786 million in 2026-27 and \$1.1 billion thereafter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ redeterminations for eligibility every six months instead of annually, resulting in fewer people being found eligible and a reduction of \$463 million in 2026-27 and \$3 billion by 2029-2030. ● Because of federally required changes in how states can collect taxes from Medicaid providers, additional costs of \$1.1 billion in 2026-27. ● Expand access to care, strengthen the workforce, and enhance infrastructure in rural and frontier communities at the Dept. of Health Care Access and information, costing over \$233 million in federal funds (called the Federal Rural Health Transformation Program).
<p>IHSS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● There is \$33.4 billion allocated in 2026-27 to IHSS for over 875,000 service recipients. ● Beginning in 2027-28, stop paying for increases in IHSS hours, saving \$233 million. This means the state will stop paying for more hours when the county approves them – the cost will fall on the counties. ● Eliminate the IHSS Backup Provider System, which saves \$3.5 million. ● End state-funded IHSS during the waiting period before Medi-Cal begins, which saves \$86 million. IHSS would only be available once Medi-Cal coverage starts.
<p>CHILDCARE, NUTRITION, AND EDUCATION</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An increase of almost \$90 million to pay for cost-of-living adjustments to childcare programs run by the CA Dept. of Social Services (CDSS). ● An increase of almost \$383 million in 2026-27 to CalFresh because of HR 1's reductions and \$66 million in savings because of HR 1 changes that result in fewer individuals being eligible for CalFresh. ● There is almost \$150 billion allocated for all TK-12 education programs for nearly 6 million students in more than 10,000 schools across the state. ● Fund the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant for its last years through 2027-2028, costing over \$757 million. ● Home to School Transportation Program, \$33 million in one-time funding and \$239 million annually thereafter. ● Pay for cost-of-living adjustments for many programs, including special education child nutrition, costing over \$228 million annually. ● Continue screening students from grades K-2 for risk of reading difficulties, costing \$40 million in one-time funds. ● LA County School Wildfire recovery, costing almost \$23 million in one-time funding. ● Provide a flexible block grant for the community colleges system, costing \$100 million one-time funding.



<p>CIVIL RIGHTS</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2025 budget established the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery. This budget proposes funding to permanently staff the Bureau, almost \$1 million for 2028-29 and \$2 million in 2029-2030 and annually thereafter. • Continue the funding and work of the Commission on the State of Hate through the end of 2030, allocating almost \$1 million in 2026-27, almost \$2 million 2027-2030, and almost \$1 million 2030-2031.
<p>HOUSING</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue the plan to reorganize housing efforts under the California Housing and Homeless Agency (CHHA) and the Housing Development and Finance Committee (HDFC). • Shift \$560 million to HDFC to administer affordable housing programs.

Budget Resources

- [Governor’s Proposed 2026-2027 Budget](#)
 - <https://ebudget.ca.gov/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK



GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR BUDGET-RELATED ADVOCACY

These guiding principles are intended to support the California State Administration and Legislature in approaching Medicaid-related budget adjustments with a focus on equity, transparency, and the preservation of essential services. Drawn from SCDD's core values and the California Health and Human Services Agency's Guiding Principles, these principles create a framework for ethical decision-making that emphasizes the need to center the voices of people with developmental disabilities and their families, upholds California's longstanding commitment to community inclusion, and asserts the rights and well-being of individuals who rely on these services to fully participate in their communities. By grounding budget decisions in these principles, policymakers can navigate fiscal constraints while safeguarding the dignity, health, and opportunity of all Californians.

Promote Community Living

The core values for community living are in law and include independence, productivity, integration, inclusion, self-determination, protection, advocacy, and quality of life. Budget decisions must actively advance and uphold these values, ensuring that every action taken strengthens opportunities for full participation, equity, and dignity in community life.

Focus on Community Priorities

State budget and policy decisions should reflect the real needs and values of Californians with developmental disabilities and their families. Community priorities must be central in this process. SCDD has heard clearly from individuals with developmental disabilities, family members, and community partners about what matters most to them. These priorities include protecting and enhancing civil rights, guaranteeing access to education and employment, promoting access to quality supports in the community, ensuring safety in the community, and improving housing and community living. As policymakers work to navigate fiscal challenges and design responsive systems, grounding decisions in the lived experiences and expressed priorities of the disability community can help ensure equitable and effective outcomes.

Focus on Equity

Efforts to adjust budgets must confront systemic inequities, including but not limited to those related to race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, and economic status. Equity must be centered at every stage. Barriers must be removed so



that every Californian has a fair chance to meet their needs and achieve their goals. A person's background, income level, or aspect of identity should not determine their health, safety, or life outcomes.

Actively Listen, Learn, and Understand

State agencies and departments must engage directly with individuals, families, and communities to better understand their needs and priorities. Agencies must proactively seek input by holding town halls, convening workgroups, and engaging advisory committees and other stakeholder bodies. Listening deeply and building collaboration into program design strengthens relationships and outcomes, advances self-determination, and ensures policies and services reflect the needs and priorities of the communities they serve.

Use Data to Drive Action and Mitigate Harm

Robust use of data is essential to identify community needs, measure program impact, and highlight opportunities for improvement. Agencies must integrate, interpret, and share data responsibly to produce actionable insights that drive informed decision-making. Data must also be used to monitor unintended consequences and mitigate potential harm, ensuring policies advance equity, improve outcomes, and support the well-being of all Californians.

See the Whole Person

Policymakers must recognize the full range of needs, preferences, and values of individuals and families. Cultural, economic, and social factors must be considered, and programs aligned or integrated across departments and with community partners to meet these needs. Person-centered approaches must replace siloed systems to honor dignity, support autonomy, and help people thrive.

Cultivate a Culture Of Innovation

Innovation must be pursued with intentionality, collaboration, and responsiveness to diverse and emerging needs. Agencies should design flexible, resilient systems by partnering across departments, engaging counties, collaborating with community-based organizations, and consulting with tribes. Creative solutions must be applied effectively to ensure programs meet the needs of all Californians.

March 19, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 9.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

Updates and Standing Agenda Items

The goal of this agenda item is for Committee members to provide updates on the following items and be updated on the actions of the Council.

- a. Council Updates
- b. Federal Updates
- c. DDS Updates ([Homepage](#))
 - I. Self-Determination Program ([Implementation Updates](#))

Attachment(s)

None

Handout(s)

May be additional handout(s) the day of the meeting.

THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY BLANK

March 19, 2026

**AGENDA ITEM 9.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES – LPPC

Member Updates

The goal of this agenda item is to allow Committee members time to provide local updates from their community on policy related issues not included in the agenda.

Attachment(s)

None

Handout(s)

May be additional handout(s) day of meeting.