

# Agenda Item 11. 2024 Policy Planning

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# November 28<sup>th</sup> Report to the Council Topics

- Legislative Process Overview
- 2023 Bill Idea Contest Update
- 2024 Proposed Policy Priorities

# Legislative Process

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- The State Legislature has 80 Assembly Members and 40 Senate Members.
- There are four steps in the Legislative Process:
  - **Step 1: The idea.** Ideas for legislation come from different sources, but a member of the State Legislature is who champions the idea as a bill.
  - **Step 2: Assigning a bill number.** The idea is written into a bill and the Legislator introduces the bill to the public, this is when it is given a bill number.
  - **Step 3: Amendments.** The bill then goes to policy committees to be reviewed, improved with amendments and then voted on in a committee hearing.
  - **Step 4: Governor Signature.** If the bill passes all of the needed votes in the Senate and Assembly, it will go to the Governor to sign or veto. If he signs the bill it becomes law, if he vetoes the bill then the bill fails.

# 2024 Legislative Calendar

## January - May

- January 1 most 2023 new laws go into effect
- January 3 Legislature reconvenes
- January 31 house of origin deadline
- Feb 16 bill introduction deadline
- March 21 – 31 spring recess
- **May 24 house of origin deadline**

## • June – September

- **June 15 budget must pass by midnight**
- July 3 – Aug 5 summer recess
- **August 31 last day of session**
- **September 30 Governor bill signature deadline**
- **November 5 general election**
- **Dec 2 2025-26 organizing session**

# How Does SCDD Track Legislation?

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LPPC staff reviews all bills that are introduced, there are about 1,500 introduced each year. We add bills that are most important to the following lists:

- Support
  - Watch
  - Oppose
  - No Position
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- If you see a bill that you think might be important please let us know.

# Reminder: Regarding SCDD's Public Policy Operations

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It is critical that staff, members of the Council, and its committees speak with one voice to all offices when informing and advocating with elected officials.

If you want to talk to a legislator or their staff, please reach out to us first.

# 2023 Bill Ideas Contest and Report

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- In September we launched our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual bill ideas contest
- Over the year, we received a total of 52 bill ideas, many were about improving services, civil rights and housing.
- The bill ideas report includes all 52 bill ideas, we will share it with you after today, we will share it on our website, and we will share it with legislative offices.

# 2023 Bill Ideas Contest Winner

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- In order to identify the winner of the contest, we considered bill ideas submitted between September 1 – 31.
- There were so many smart ideas! The bill idea that stood out the most, the winner, was written by self-advocate Raquel Gibbons from Orange County
- **Congratulations Raquel!**



# 2023 Contest Winner Bill Description

## Part 1 of 2

- Raquel's bill is about the lack of support for people with mental health and behavioral health conditions that include symptoms like aggression.
- Outpatient and Inpatient facilities tend to focus on depression, eating disorders, and substance abuse. Most will refuse patients who display aggressive behavior or are considered a risk of harm to themselves or others.
- Some even recommend their parents call the police to handle the emergency.

# 2024 Policy Priority Recommendations

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- Because of current events, LPPC is recommending “Health, Home, Work” as the priorities to focus on during the 2024. This theme is based on housing, mental health and employment.
- “Health, Home, Work” is a well-timed approach that will support many of the current big issues in the Legislature.

# 2024 Policy Priority Recommendations

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- 1. Health** – mental health is a big topic right now due to the Governor’s changes in the Mental Health Services Act this year and the creation of CARE Courts last year.
- 2. Home** – housing is a big focus for other disabilities advocates, this week there are two summits focused on how we can help people with disabilities who are either unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.
- 3. Work** – Council is releasing our first 2024 annual SB 639 report on subminimum wages and we are working with CHHS on the Employment 1<sup>st</sup> Office.

# Staff Recommendation

## Recommended Motion

Adopt LPPC's recommendation that the Council focus on legislative priorities that fall under the theme of "Health, Home, Work" during 2024.