



## Legislative and Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes March 16, 2023

### Attending Members

Andy Imparato  
Harold Ashe (FA)  
Julie Neward (FA)  
Nicole Adler (SA)  
Rosie Ryan (SA)  
Viviana Barnwell  
Wesley Witherspoon (SA)

### Members Absent

Alex Reyes (SA)  
Andy Imparato (DRC)  
Connie Lapin (FA)  
Michael Rillera

### Others Attending

Aaron Carruthers  
Brian Weisel  
Bridget Kolakosky  
Chris Arroyo  
Jennifer Lucas  
Jessica Riestra  
Ken DaRosa  
Riana Hardin  
Robin Maitino-Erben  
Teresa Anderson  
Veronica Bravo  
Victoria Schlussler  
Yaritza Sanchez

### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Committee Chair Harold Ashe called the meeting to order at 10:34 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.

### 5. **APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 2023 MEETING MINUTES**

It was moved/seconded (Witherspoon [SA]/Ryan [SA]) and carried to adopt the January 17, 2023, meeting minutes as presented. (Motion passed unanimously, Councilmembers Viviana Barnwell and Julie

Neward were not present for the vote. See page one for a record of members present)

## 6. STATE LEGISLATIVE AND BUDGET UPDATES

Deputy Director of Policy and Public Affairs Bridget Kolakosky, provided members with an update on legislative priorities, SCDD's 2022 "There Should Be a Law" contest, and provided 14 bill recommendations to the Committee for consideration.

Self-advocate Natalia Castro from the San Bernadino region won the 2022 There Should Be a Law Contest for her proposal to require background checks for nonprofits/churches.

Deputy Director Kolakosky reported that the Council is continuing its focus on Employment, Safety, and Housing for this legislative calendar year. Additionally, she proposed that the Committee spend time this year focusing on safety, abuse, and neglect. The goal is to build a coalition to advocate in the legislature for improved safety and identify possible bill ideas.

The following were the bills presented to the Committee for consideration.

### Supported Bills

- AB 248 (Mathis) Individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities: The Dignity for All Act.
- AB 545 (Pellerin) Access for Voters with Disabilities
- AB 447 (Arambula) Inclusive Higher Education Act
- AB 87 (Quirk-Silva) Special education: Section 504 plans: team meetings
- SB 483 (Cortese) "Prone Restraints"
- AB 1097 (Luz Rivas) Credit history of persons receiving government rent subsidies.
- SB 246 (Ochoa-Bogh) California Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)
- AB 222 (Arambula) Civil Rights Department: Californians with disabilities workgroup
- AB 1568 (Wood) Independent living skills services: rates

- AB 244 (Wilson) Specialized Inclusivity Training for Childcare Staff Grant Program
- SB 271 (Dodd) Wheelchairs
- AB1567 (Principal Authors: Eduardo Garcia, Wendy Carrillo, Connolly, Friedman, and Papan). Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2023
- AB 280 (Holden) Segregated Confinement
- AB 946 (Nguyen) Emergency services: endangered missing advisory

It was moved/seconded (Imparato/Witherspoon [SA]) and carried to adopt staff's bill recommendations and send them to the full Council for consideration at the March 2023 Council meeting. (Motion passed unanimously, Councilmember Viviana Barnwell was not present for the vote. See page one for a record of members present)

#### **7. SILENCE = VIOLENCE PRESENTATION**

Teresa Anderson from The ARC provided a presentation on The ARC's Silence = Violence program. Members participated throughout the presentation, discussing what they were taught about safety and what makes them feel safe, and sharing ideas about safety-related legislation.

The Committee requested a follow-up presentation at a future meeting.

#### **8. UPDATES AND STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

Executive Director Aaron Carruthers provided a summary of what would be discussed at the March Council meeting. Hyperlinks for official agency updates on the DDS Taskforce and Workgroup, Self-Determination Program and CalABLE were provided to members in the packet and in the Zoom meeting chat.

#### **9. MEMBER UPDATES**

There were no member updates provided.

#### **10. 2023 MEETINGS AND ADJOURNMENT**

The committee will meet on September 12, 2023, and October 23, 2023. The meeting adjourned at 2:31 PM.