

# 2024 Legislative and Budget Update Agenda Item #6

LPPC Meeting – October 2024  
Aaron Carruthers, Executive Director

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# Housing #1

**Bill:** SB 37 (Caballero) Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities Housing Stability Act

**What will the bill do?** it would have created a rental assistance pilot program, to prevent homelessness for persons that are older or for persons with disabilities.

**Position: Co Sponsors**

**STATUS: Vetoed by Governor.** Two reasons for Veto: a) the pilot is not funded in this year's budget and b) it's better to leverage existing programs

# Housing #2

**Bill:** SB 1443 (Jones) CA Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

**What will the bill do?** Would have added SCDD to the council on homelessness (ICH).

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** **Vetoed by Governor-** DD representation is covered by HHS Secretary and an advisory committee member with DD

# Civil Rights

**Bill:** SB 1001 (Skinner) Death penalty: intellectually disabled persons

**What will the bill do?** This bill will protect individuals with an intellectual disability from the death penalty. Not all adults with IDD were diagnosed as children. This bill is for people in prison who have been sentenced with the death penalty but that were not diagnosed with IDD as children. It allows a disabled person in prison to show, through evidence like a medical evaluation, testing, and testimony that they were intellectually disabled before the end of their developmental period.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Employment

**Bill:** AB 1147 (Addis/Garcia/Mathis) Disability Equity, Transparency, and Accountability Act of 2024

**What will the bill do?** It makes regional centers subject to requirements of the California Public Records Act, which means it will improve transparency. Also, it prohibits regional center employees from accepting gifts over \$15 per year from certain agencies and prohibits regional center senior staff from hiring relatives.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Health #1

**Bill:** AB 1977 (Ta) Health care coverage: behavioral diagnoses

**What will the bill do?** Would prohibit healthcare plans from requiring a person who is already diagnosed with a developmental disability or autism to be re-evaluated to keep healthcare coverage for their condition. These conditions are for life, they do not change or go away-- getting re-tested just creates a risk of losing important healthcare insurance. Also, re-evaluations are difficult and lengthy.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** **Vetoed by Governor-** it's not reasonable to prohibit utilization review.

# Health #2

**Bill:** AB 2510 (Arambula) Dental care for people with developmental disabilities

**What will the bill do?** Would have created a training program for dental staff to provide dental care services to persons with developmental and intellectual disabilities and reduce the need for regional center consumers to receive dental treatment using sedation and general anesthesia. People with I/DD must wait a long time to receive dental care. This is because there are not a lot of trained dental staff to work with persons with I/DD. Right now, persons with I/DD are sedated or receive anesthesia (puts them to sleep) to receive dental care. This is not always necessary and delays dental care. Delayed dental care means bad health outcomes. This bill will improve dental health.

**Position:** Changed from Support to Watch

**STATUS:** Failed in Appropriations Committee

# Health #3

**Bill:** AB 2753 (Ortega) durable medical equipment and services

**What will the bill do?** Would have required health plans to include coverage of durable medical equipment, services and repair. When health insurance plans do not pay for durable medical equipment (DME), people with disabilities are impacted the most because they use health equipment the most. Health equipment is too expensive without health insurance.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Failed in Appropriations Committee



# Education #1

**Bill:** SB 483 (Cortese) Pupil Rights: Prone Restraints

**What will the bill do?** This bill protects students with disabilities from being held face-down. This new law will prohibit the practice of prone-restraint on students with disabilities.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Education #2

**Bill:** AB 1885 (Addis) Student Success Completion Grant program

**What will the bill do?** reduces the minimum required units for students in Disabled Student Programs & Services (DSPS) to receive Cal Grant assistance to 9 units, from its current 12 units requirement. Students in DSPS who enroll in 9 units are considered full-time at 9 units but the Cal Grant definition of full-time is currently 12 units. Changing the unit requirement to 9, would make qualifying for Cal Grant assistance more equitable by giving students with disabilities the same opportunity that students without disabilities have to apply for and receive grants to attend college. These grants would be approximately \$1,200 a year.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Human Services #2

**Bill:** SB 1281 (Menjivar) Advancing Equity and Access in the Self-Determination Program Act

**What will the bill do?** Would have required the Self Determination Program (SDP) process to be the same statewide by January 2026. The Self-determination Program is not the same from one regional center to another.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** **Vetoed by Governor-** can make these recommendations via Masterplan for DD platform

# Human Services/Housing #3

**Bill:** AB 3291 (Assembly Human Services Committee, Chair Lee) Developmental Services Omni Bill

**What will the bill do?** 1) Allows regional centers (RC) to offer rent, mortgage, or lease assistance when an independent living services consumer is at-risk of being homeless, and when the RC executive director can certify in writing that the consumer has demonstrated risk of homelessness. 2) Requires Regional Centers to discuss a caregiver succession plan with consumers to ensure when their caregiver is unable to provide care there is a plan in place.

**Position:** Support

**Status:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Human Services #4

**Bill:** SB 1384 (Dodd) Power Wheelchair Repair

**What will the bill do?** This bill allows wheelchair users to fix their chairs themselves by requiring the makers of wheelchairs to provide information, tools, and replacement parts to owners or other providers.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Human Services #5

**Bill:** SB 1197 (Alvarado-Gil) In-home respite services: resource families

**What will the bill do?** bill updates/adds foster youth and their families to the list of persons that can receive in-home respite services. Current law is written to prohibit this group from qualifying for services.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Approved by Governor- **SIGNED!**

# Federal

**Bill:** H.R. 6405 Marriage Equality for Disabled Adults Act (Congressman Panetta)

**What will the bill do?** The Act will increase the federal asset limit for persons with disabilities from \$2,000 to \$10,000. For couples, the limit would be raised to \$20,000. So people do not have to choose between getting married or keeping benefits

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** TBA

# Budget Update 2024

## Budget Approved 2024 for AB 447 (2023):

- **What?** In 2023, we sponsored AB 447 (Arambula) to create Inclusive College Programs for students with disabilities, but it passed with no money to fund the program.
- **SIGNED!** This year Governor Newsom approved \$2 Million Recurring funds for a **California Center for Inclusive College (Ca Center)** to help students with intellectual disabilities transition to college.
- **How will it work?** A County of Education will be selected to receive funds via a grant to administer the Ca Center. The Ca Center will provide best practice guidance to create and expand inclusive college programs. It will also assist programs in identifying other funding sources.



# Budget Update 2024

**Bill:** AB 1876 (Jackson) Developmental services: individual program plans and individual family service plans: remote meetings

**What will the bill do?** Allows meetings to be remote (video, like Zoom) for individual program plans (IPP) and individualized family service plans (IFSP). It also improves accessibility to participate in meetings.

**Position:** Support

**STATUS:** Passed via Budget

Any Questions?

THANK YOU!

