

Capitol Update



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The 2016 legislative session has come to an end!

Here are some highlights of what was in the budget that passed last Friday;

- Help Me Grow Florida-\$2.45 million dollars
- The House and the Senate agreed on over \$14 million dollars in state funds to draw down \$22 million dollars in federal Medicaid matching funds to transition over 1300 individuals off the iBudget waitlist!
- \$500,000 has been agreed on for employment assistance for individuals on the iBudget waitlist!
- Department of Labor funding has been agreed to at over \$14 million dollars which will also draw down federal funds!

The following are APD Provider Rate increases with Federal Match;

- APD Adult Day Training 1:3 for Minimum Wage Compliance \$1,759,833 GR - \$2,753,717 Match
- APD Adult Day Training 1:3 3% Across-the-Board Increase \$974,583 GR - \$1,524,989 Match
- APD Personal Supports 3% Across-the-Board Increase \$2,710,303 GR - \$4,240,974 Match
- APD Residential Habilitation 3% Across-the-Board Increase \$4,242,289 GR \$6,638,165 Match

33 -Aid to local governments-grants and aids - Adults with Disabilities
Funds-From general revenue fund 5,375,369

Funds in Specific Appropriation 33 shall be allocated as follows:

Inclusive Transition and Employment Management Program (ITEM).....	750,000
Flagler Adults with Disabilities.....	535,892
Jackson Adults with Disabilities Program.....	1,019,247
Miami-Dade Adults with Disabilities Program.....	1,125,208
Sumter Adults with Disabilities Program.....	42,500
Palm Beach Habilitation Center.....	225,000
Community Based Supported Employment.....	114,723

Adults with Disabilities - Helping People Succeed.....109,006

Broward County Public Schools Adults with Disabilities..... 800,000
Daytona State College Adults with Disabilities Program.....70,000
Gadsden Adults with Disabilities Program..... 100,000
Gulf Adults with Disabilities Program.....35,000
Jefferson Adults with Disabilities Program..... 30,000
Leon Adults with Disabilities Program.....225,000
Taylor Adults with Disabilities Program.....42,500
Wakulla Adults with Disabilities Program.....42,500
Tallahassee Community College Adults with Disabilities
Program.....25, 000
The WOW Center..... 83,793

Funds provided in Specific Appropriation 33 for the Inclusive Transition and Employment Management Program (ITEM) shall be used to provide young adults with disabilities who are between the ages of 16 and 28 with transitional skills, education, and on-the-job experience to allow them to acquire and retain permanent employment.

Bills that Passed!

[SB 718C1 - Relating to Identification Cards by Sobel](#)

Summary

This bill requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue an identification card(at the request of parent ,guardian or individual with a developmental exhibiting a special designation (a capital D) for a person who is diagnosed by a licensed physician as having a developmental disability. The bill requires payment of an additional fee of \$10 and proof of diagnosis. It authorizes the issuance of a replacement identification card that includes the special designation without payment. **After several lengthy discussions, the Council did not take action on this bill and will watch it. This language has been added to SB 936 which requires a good faith effort to have a parent, guardian or professional available for an interview with Victims, Suspects, or Defendants with Autism Spectrum Disorder. See below. SB 936 passed.**

Actions

03/03/16 SENATE in Messages-amended to SB 936

Compare Bills

[SB 0936 - Relating to Persons with Disabilities by Ring](#) Passed!

03/08/16 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 115 Yeas / 1 Nay)

SENATE Ordered enrolled

SENATE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed

Similar Bills

[HB 1043 - Relating to Interviews of Victims, Suspects, or Defendants with Autism Spectrum Disorder by Hager](#)

03/07/16 HOUSE Substituted for SB 0936; Laid on Table, Refer to SB 0936

[SB 230C1 - Missing Persons with Special Needs by Dean](#)

Summary

This bill creates a pilot project in specified counties to provide personal devices to aid search-and-rescue efforts for persons with special needs. The bills provide for administration of the project and require reports. The Senate bill and the House bill are covering the same counties now. APPROPRIATION: \$100,000.00. **The Council is supporting this bill and this bill passed!**

Actions

03/10/16 SENATE Received from Messages; Concurred with Amendment (930249); Passed (Vote: 40 Yeas / 0 Nays)

SENATE Ordered engrossed, then enrolled

Similar Bill

[HB 11 by Porter](#)

02/23/16 HOUSE Read Second Time; Substituted for SB 0230; Laid on Table, Refer to SB 230

[SB 7034 - Prenatal Services and Early Childhood Development by Children, Families and Elder Affairs](#)

Summary

This legislation revises the requirements for the Department of Health to maintain a clearinghouse of information for parents and health care providers on developmental evaluation and early intervention programs. The bill renames the "Infants and Toddlers Early Intervention Program" as the "Early Steps Program" and requires the development of an individual family support plan for each child served in the program. The bill specifies duties, provides for accountability and eligibility requirements. The House bill did not make it through all its assigned committees so advocates are looking at have the language put on a Department of Health bill. **The Early Steps bill language was amended to the Child Care and Development Block Grant Program bill in Senate Appropriations (SB 7058) and then went to the Senate floor and when the House Child Care and Development Block Grant Program bill (HB 7053) came over from the House, the Senate amended HB 7053 to make it identical to SB 7058 and laid SB 7058 "on the Table". That means that HB 7053 is the new vehicle for our Early Steps language. The bill passed the Senate and went over to the House with the Early Steps language on their HB 7053. After waiting for more than 2 weeks, the House pulled the bill out of messages and passed it! The legislation is on the way to the Governor!**

Actions

SENATE Retained on Calendar

Similar Bills

[SB 7058 - Relating to Child Care and Development Block Grant Program - by Education Pre-K - 12](#)

02/23/16 SENATE Read Second Time; Substituted for HB 7053; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 7053

[HB 7053 - Relating to Child Care and Development Block Grant Program by Education Committee](#)

03/11/16 HOUSE Received from Messages; Concurred with Amendment (842916); Passed (Vote: 114 Yeas / 0 Nays)

HOUSE Ordered engrossed, then enrolled

[HB 495 - Relating to Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living](#) by Harrell CS Sponsors: Education Appropriations Subcommittee

Summary

This bill requires specified agreements to be maintained; requiring the program to provide additional support and services. The bill requires the program to reimburse Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living for certain costs approved by Advisory and Oversight Committee. **The Council is supporting this bill.**

Actions

02/17/16 HOUSE Read Second Time; Substituted for SB 0202; Laid on Table, Refer to SB 0202

Similar Bills

[SB 0202 - Relating to Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living by Bean](#) - Passed!

03/02/16 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor must act on this bill by 03/09/16)

[SB 7054 - Relating to Agency for Persons with Disabilities - by Children, Families, and Elder Affairs](#)

Summary

This bill creates and amends certain statutes to provide the Agency for Persons with Disabilities ("agency" or "APD") the ability to assign priority of clients to the waiting list. The bill allows family members of active duty service members to receive waiver services. The bill allows for utilization reviews and allows contractors to use agency data management systems. The bill requires annual reviews of persons involuntarily admitted to residential services and allows for the use of video and audio monitoring of the comprehensive transitional education programs facilities.

The bill provides that individuals that are 18 but not yet 22 and staying in extended foster care are eligible to receive foster care services and waiver services. The bill directs persons or entities under contract with the agency to use the agency data management systems to document service provision to clients. The bill clarifies the process used in development of a client's iBudget and adds transportation as a service that can be considered for an increase when determining the allocation of funds to the client's iBudget.

Additionally, the bill directs the agency to conduct utilization review activities in both public and private intermediate care facilities as necessary to meet the requirements of the approved Medicaid state plan and federal law. The bill provides that persons involuntarily admitted to residential services by court order shall have such admission orders reviewed annually by a qualified evaluator employed by the agency. Such reviews shall consider the appropriateness of placement, treatment, habilitation, and rehabilitation in the residential setting.

The bill revises the purposes of comprehensive transitional education programs, authorizes the agency to approve the admission or readmission of individuals to the program and provides for video and audio recording and monitoring of common areas and program activities in the facilities. The bill would allow the establishment of residential facilities that meets with local land use and zoning requirements that does not exceed a capacity of 15 persons. **The Council is supporting SB 7054 and HB 1083. These bills became identical after a series of amendments and at the Senate bills last stop in appropriations, language for the Arc of Florida dental program was amended onto it. The Senate substituted SB 7054 for HB 1083 which means it does not include the dental amendment. However the dental program is continuing on a yearly basis with one million more dollars this year! Actions**

03/08/16 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendment Withdrawn (668734); Substituted for HB 1083; Laid on Table, Refer to HB 1083

Compare Bills

[HB 1083 - Relating to Agency for Persons with Disabilities by Renner](#) - Passed!

03/11/16 Signed by Officers and presented to Governor (Governor has until 03/26/16 to act on this bill)

[HB 1089 - Relating to Criminal History Information - by Rooney](#)

Summary

This bill provides for a reduced fee for criminal history information (in line with other agencies) provided to Agency for Persons with Disabilities under specified provisions. **The Council supports this bill. Actions**

03/07/16 HOUSE Substituted for SB 0628; Laid on Table, Refer to SB 0628

Similar Bills

[SB 0628 - Relating to Fees for Records by Richter](#) -Passed!

03/08/16 HOUSE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 116 Yeas / 0 Nays)

SENATE Ordered enrolled

SENATE Enrolled Text (ER) Filed

[SB 962 - Relating to Vocational Rehabilitation by Gaetz \(D\)](#)

Summary

This bill requires the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to initiate, by a specified date, a performance improvement plan designed to achieve specified goals. The bill requires the division to submit a performance report annually to the Governor and the Legislature which includes specified information. This year the Senate worked with the Division to get their input and align the goals with federal WIOA requirements. **The Council is supporting this bill. This bill was amended to HB 7029 and**

Passed!

Actions

02/11/16 SENATE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 40 Yeas / 0 Nays)

02/18/16 HOUSE in Messages-Amended to HB 7029

Compare Bills

[HB 1359 - Relating to Vocational Rehabilitation by Fresen](#)

02/18/16 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

[HB 7029 - Relating to School Choice - by Choice & Innovation Subcommittee, Cortes \(B\) Cosponsors: Adkins, Artiles, Fresen CS Sponsors: Education Committee, Education Appropriations Subcommittee](#)

03/11/16 SENATE Received from Messages; Amendments to House amendments adopted (137784, 927886); Concurred with Amendment as amended (635159); Passed (Vote: 29 Yeas / 10 Nays)

HOUSE in returning messages

HOUSE Received from Messages; Concurred with Amendments (972899, 137784); Passed (Vote: 82 Yeas / 33 Nays)

HOUSE Ordered engrossed, then enrolled

Bills that Died

[SB 468 - Relating to Computer Coding Instruction by Ring Co-Sponsors: Brandes, Galvano CS Sponsors: Appropriations, Education Pre-K – 12](#)

Summary

General Computer Coding Instruction-This bill requires high schools to offer students opportunities to take specified computer coding courses and requires the Commissioner of Education to identify the computer coding courses that satisfy two credits of foreign language instruction under certain circumstances. The bill requires Florida College System institutions and state universities to recognize the credits as foreign language credits. **The Council supports the Senate bill. Died in House**

Messages.

Actions

02/23/16 SENATE Read Second Time; Amendments Adopted (591908, 409420); Amendment Withdrawn (509734); Ordered Engrossed; Placed on Third Reading, 02/24/16

02/24/16 SENATE Read Third Time; Passed (Vote: 35 Yeas / 5 Nays); immediately certified

HOUSE in Messages –Died in House Messages

Compare Bill

[HB 0887 - Relating to Computer Coding Instruction by Adkins](#)

02/17/16 HOUSE Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading-Died on the Calendar

[SB 144 - Relating to Autism by Ring](#)

Summary

This bill requires that a physician refer a minor to an appropriate specialist for screening for autism spectrum disorder under certain circumstances and requires that certain insurers and health maintenance organizations provide direct patient access to an appropriate specialist for screening for, or evaluation or diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. The bill also requires that certain insurance policies and health maintenance organization contracts provide a minimum number of visits per year for screening for or evaluation or diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. **The Council voted to support this bill. Died.**

Actions

09/09/15 SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Banking and Insurance; Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government; Fiscal Policy –Never heard in Committee

Similar Bill

[HB 49- Relating to Autism by Cruz](#)

08/27/15 HOUSE Now in Health Innovation Subcommittee-Never Heard in Committee

[SB 138 - Relating to Disability Awareness by Ring](#)

Summary

This bill requires rather than authorizes, each district school board to provide disability history and awareness instruction in all K-12 public schools beginning in 2016-2017. Presentations by individuals with a disability are to be included in the disability history and awareness instruction. **The Council voted to support the bill with the addition of language that would add the flexibility of being able to provide this instruction anytime during the school year instead of just the first two weeks of October. Died.**

Died.

Actions

09/09/15 SENATE Referred to Education Pre-K - 12; Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; Fiscal Policy- Never heard in Committee

Identical Bill

[HB 0317 - Relating to Disability History and Awareness Instruction by McGhee](#)

10/30/15 HOUSE Now in K-12 Subcommittee- Never heard in Committee

[SB 1142 Treatments for Stable Patients- Hayes](#)

Summary

This bill prohibits an insurer or a pharmacy benefits manager from limiting or excluding coverage for a drug for an insured with a certain medical condition under certain conditions. In an effort to cut costs, insurance companies are increasingly forcing patients who are stable on their medications off their therapies. It may happen mid-plan year when a health plan removes a drug from its formulary or when it increases patient out-of-pocket costs – regardless of the health impact on the patient.

This bill helps patients who have complex, chronic, or rare conditions by limiting the change of a stable patient's medication that puts the patient's health at risk (potentially causing adverse side effects and decreased effectiveness of their medication). **The Council is supporting this bill. Died.**

Actions

02/01/16 SENATE Favorable with CS by Banking and Insurance; 11 Yeas, 0 Nays

02/03/16 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed

02/09/16 SENATE Favorable by Health Policy; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays

SENATE Died in Appropriations

Similar Bills

[HB 0915 - Relating to Continuity of Care for Medically Stable Patients by Mayfield](#)

01/08/16 HOUSE Now in Insurance & Banking Subcommittee- Never heard in Committee
