The Legislative Session for 2019 has Begun!

Governor DeSantis and many first term legislators have hit the ground running. Governor DeSantis has recommended eight budget priorities for the Agency for Persons with Disabilities (click here for all eight). Chief among the Governor's recommendations are $15.8 million state dollars to serve additional clients on the iBudget (DD/HCBS) waiver waiting list and $22 million state dollars to fill a budget gap. $1 million was also recommended to provide supported employment services to gain employment or paid internships for clients and to increase the number of employers providing opportunities to clients.

While the Governor has been generous with his budget recommendations, members on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services and the House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee are questioning the budget gap, while others are wondering if the Agency has been funded appropriately. This is a difficult situation because State law requires Agencies to maintain a balanced budget and Medicaid requires the funding of Medically Necessary services when someone is on the iBudget waiver.
See below information and updates on each bill we are monitoring as they directly impact those with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**Important Bills to Watch**

**SB 62 - Students with Disabilities in Public Schools - 2019 by Book CS**
Sponsors: Education - Amended to the Dorothy L. Hukill Student Safety

**Summary**

This bill provides requirements for the use of physical restraint and the use of exclusionary and non-exclusionary time. The bill also provides requirements for documenting, reporting, and monitoring the use of restraint and exclusionary or non-exclusionary time. The bill includes continuing education and in-service training for instructional personnel in teaching students with emotional or behavioral disabilities. Education Committee members passed this bill along but they had concerns about reporting requirements and types of restraints that may be omitted. *The Council is supporting this proposed legislation.*

**Actions**

- **11/20/18** SENATE Filed
- **12/13/18** SENATE Referred to Education; Appropriations Subcommittee on Education; Appropriations
- **03/12/19** SENATE Favorable with CS by Education; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
- **03/13/19** SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
- **03/14/19** SENATE Now in Appropriations Subcommittee on Education

**Similar Bills**

**HB 0349 Students with Disabilities in Public Schools by DuBose**
01/30/19 - HOUSE Now in PreK-12 Quality Subcommittee
SB 844 - At-Risk Adult Alert Plan by Berman CS Sponsors: Infrastructure and Security

Summary

The At-Risk Adult Alert Plan redefines the term "missing endangered person" to include a missing adult who meets the criteria for activation of the At-Risk Adult Alert Plan of the Department of Law Enforcement. SB 844 creates the At-Risk Adult Alert Plan which aids in the search for a missing adult:

- Who has a verified mental or cognitive impairment;
- Whose disappearance poses a credible threat to the person's welfare and safety; and
- Who does not meet the criteria for activation of the Silver Alert Plan.

The bill requires the Department of Law Enforcement, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and local law enforcement agencies, to establish and implement the At-Risk Adult Alert Plan; requiring a local law enforcement agency to broadcast information to the public and the media about certain missing adults. The Council is supporting this proposed legislation.

Actions

02/07/19 SENATE Filed
02/15/19 SENATE Referred to Infrastructure and Security; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; Appropriations
03/12/19 SENATE Favorable with CS by Infrastructure and Security; 8 Yeas, 0 Nays
03/14/19 SENATE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
Now in Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

Similar Bills

HB 0305 At-Risk Adult Alert Plan by Ausley
02/21/19 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Criminal Justice Subcommittee; 11 Yeas, 2 Nays
02/22/19 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed
02/27/19 HOUSE Now in Justice Appropriations Subcommittee
**Summary**

The bill establishes the Assisted & Independent Living Facility Task Force. The bill provides duties, membership, and meetings of task force. The task force is required to submit report to the Governor and the Legislature. The bill creates s. 393.25 and shall develop and evaluate policy proposals that incentivize building contractors and developers to create space for assisted living facilities or independent living facilities within mixed-use developments which may be used as low-cost, supportive, and affordable housing for individuals who are in need of such housing and who have an intellectual disability or autism, as those terms are defined in s. 393.063, or a mental illness, as defined in s. 394.455. **The Council is supporting this proposed legislation.**

**Actions**

01/11/19 HOUSE   Filed

01/23/19 HOUSE   Referred to Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee
Now in Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee

**Similar Bills**

**SB 0670 Assisted and Independent Living Facility Task Force by Rader**
03/14/19 - SENATE On Committee agenda - Governmental Oversight and Accountability, 03/19/19, 4:00 pm, 301 S

**HB 869 - X-linked Myotubular Myopathy - by Hattersley Cosponsors: Jenne**

**Summary**

The bill revises the definition of the term "developmental disability" to include a disorder or syndrome attributable to X-linked myotubular myopathy; defining the term "X-linked myotubular myopathy "to mean a diagnosed, inherited, genetic neuromuscular disorder characterized by mild to profound muscle weakness, diminished muscle tone or hypotonia, feeding difficulties, ophthalmoplegia, areflexia, scoliosis, joint deformities, or potentially severe
breathing difficulties. This disorder is very rare. A child with this disorder gave compelling testimony in sign language along with his parents and their doctor.

The Council is neutral on this proposed legislation because the Council uses the federal definition of developmental disability and supports the addition of all the conditions that come under the federal definition.

Actions

02/15/19 HOUSE Filed

02/28/19 HOUSE Referred to Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee; Health & Human Services Committee

03/13/19 HOUSE Favorable by Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee; 12 Yeas, 0 Nays
Now in Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

Identical Bills

SB 0390 X-linked Myotubular Myopathy by Cruz
02/01/19 - SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services; Appropriations

SB 302 - Nonemergency Medical Transportation Services - by Brandes CS
Sponsors: Health Policy

Summary

This bill would authorize Medicaid non-emergency transportation services to be provided to a Medicaid recipient by certain transportation network companies or transportation brokers, subject to compliance with certain requirements. The bill requires the Agency for Health Care Administration to update the Non-Emergency Transportation Services Coverage Policy by a specified date.

Actions

01/11/19 SENATE Filed

01/25/19 SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services; Appropriations
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**Similar Bills**

**HB 0411 Nonemergency Medical Transportation Services by Perez**
03/13/19 HOUSE Favorable with CS by Health Market Reform Subcommittee; 12 Yeas, 0 Nays
03/15/19 HOUSE Committee Substitute Text (C1) Filed