



Public Policy Committee Report

January 9, 2020 / Orlando, Florida

The Public Policy Committee met yesterday, and we discussed secondary legislative issues for Council support. An update on our primary legislative priority on the iBudget will be discussed by the Full Council.

Decision items that were considered by the Public Policy Committee included the following secondary legislative priorities.

1) Transportation Disadvantaged bill- House Bill 551 by Rep. Jenne-This bill is the bill we put on hold from our last meeting. We were waiting for language changes. The bill now includes a requirement to increase programs that enhance cross-county mobility for specified purposes for transportation disadvantaged and requires evaluation of multicounty or regional transportation opportunities to increase these programs. The bill also requires the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged to develop a disability sensitivity training program and A Ride Away Program. Program requirements include possession of certain identification issued by the commission and requires motor vehicles used to provide transportation disadvantaged services to be equipped with cameras and GPS capability. **The Committee voted to support this bill.**

2) Purple Alert bill-SB 1198 by Senator Berman-This bill is the updated Orange Alert bill or Purple is the new Orange alert bill! **The Council voted to support this bill in September. Margaret shared the updated and improved bill with language that the Council and Disability Rights Florida submitted.**

3) Driver's License bill- House Bill 787 by Rep. Tomkow-This bill would provide fees for placement of specified letter on driver license of person who has a developmental disability. The license would be voluntary for adults with no guardians and is intended to alert law enforcement to unusual behaviors and responses. **The Committee narrowly voted to oppose the bill.**

4) Public School Transportation- House Bill 601 by Rep Pritchett-This bill requires district school boards to provide transportation for each public elementary school student through sixth grade if student's single parent or guardian is a person with a developmental disability. Christinne Rudd shared her story with the committee, that was behind the need for this legislation. **The Committee voted to support this bill.**

Additional agenda items

Universal Changing Places bill- This legislation was created by Sabrina Kimball, a former Partners in Policymaking graduate. Ms. Kimball has worked on this in the past. New Hampshire used her bill language and passed it and now she wants to try again to get this legislation passed in Florida. The bill

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would require that large, high use public offices and venues offer changing tables for adults who need them. **The Committee voted to support this legislation in September and since then it has House and Senate sponsors.**

Intermediate Care Facilities-SB 1344 by Senator Harrell-This bill requires certain facilities that have been granted a certificate-of-need exemption to demonstrate and maintain compliance with very specified criteria. This bill allows new ICF's to be developed for individuals with serious maladaptive behaviors and co-occurring psychiatric diagnoses. **The Committee voted to remain neutral on this bill.**

Supported Decision Making (SDM) -is an alternative to guardianship that allows people with disabilities to appoint others they trust to support them in making decisions, while specifying the activities (e.g. finances, healthcare, education) and manner in which they want to be supported or require decision-making support. **The Committee voted to work (along with Disability Rights Florida) on educating legislators with guardianship bills, about this option this session.**

SB 82 by Senator Bean- This bill came out yesterday and privatizes Support Coordination and the Significant Additional Needs process. **This will be discussed further by the Committee as the Council learns more about the proposed legislation.**

Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day is scheduled for February 11, 2020