



Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Legislative Update for Clark County DDAB Public meeting

Prepared by PEACE NW (Darla Helt – Executive Director & Hattie Stigum – Program Manager)

As of today, March 5, 2025, we are officially half-way through the 2025 regular Legislative Session. Last Friday, February 28, 2025, was the first major legislative “cut off” where bills needed to be read and voted out of their fiscal committees in their house of origin. This week the house and senate are voting on the floor. They have until March 12, 2025, at 5pm to consider bills in the house of origin before going to the opposite chamber.

Highlights and Information

- Governor’s Budget
 - Last week, Governor Ferguson released his proposed budget
 - Most of which were cuts to programs to address the extreme revenue shortfall
 - \$30M+ reduction to ECEAP
 - \$350k reduction to professional guardians
 - Revoking of a 15% provider rate increase for crisis diversion and overnight planned respite
- Bills
 - Moving Forward
 - HB1472 – Closing of Yakima Valley and Rainier School
 - HB1390 – Repealing the Community Protection Program
 - HB1357 – Expanding Special Education funding for inclusionary practices
 - HB1217 – Limits rent, fees, and deposits for tenants
 - HB1130 – Prioritizes waivers distribution for clients over 45 years old
 - Not Moving Forward
 - HB1158 – Improving Community Inclusion Services
 - SB5654 – Addressing restraint and isolation in schools
 - HB1257 – Extending transition services to students through the end of the school year in which the student turns 22
 - HB1200 – Authorizing payment for parental caregivers of minor children with IDD

Key Dates

- January 13, 2025, first day of Legislative Session
- April 27, 2025, last day of regular Legislative Session

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Advocacy Day Schedule (as of 03/05/2025) <https://arcwa.org/advocacy/advocacy-days/>

* * Please note each day requires a separate registration

- January 15 – Building Capacity
- January 22 – Supporting Families
- January 29 – Housing
- February 5 – Supported Living
- February 12 – Crisis
- February 19 – Employment and Community Inclusion
- February 26 – Education
- March 5 – Community Living
- March 12 – Social Engagement
- March 19 – Workforce
- March 26 – Budget

Final Thoughts and Details

- PEACE NW plans to go to Olympia several times during session and will be offering transportation from Clark County
- To Register with PEACE NW to get updates and attend advocacy days (<https://forms.office.com/pages>)
- Operating Budget side by side is available was released in (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1678FpVx8U90h8Tzw9bE9KyAJEf7OgCWh_z3xVx6rdyM/edit?gid=0#gid=0)
- Bills of Interest can be found online (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1iufBpvgISViU-hkWDgFuZ6MX_UzMSHFR0owPuZ8Bn0w/edit?gid=0#gid=0)
- The Legislative Notebook is now up on The Arc of Washington State's website (<https://arcwa.org/advocacy/2025-legislative-notebook/>)

If you have any questions, please email HattieS@peacenw.org or call 360-991-6755.

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