DISABILITY ISSUES IN THE 2019 LEGISLATURE
STATUS REPORT #3
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February 4, 2019

(See page 10 for a list of abbreviations, including legislative committees, used in this report.)

Coming Events:
- **Feb. 4**: Patrick Grange ALS Awareness Day at the Capitol
- **Feb. 4-6**: Disability Rights Awareness Days in Santa Fe. Monday: Self-advocacy training, exhibits by sponsoring agencies, and legislator visits at the Capitol; Tuesday: conference events at the Drury Plaza hotel (registration closed); Wednesday: breakfast with legislators at the Drury.
- **Feb. 6**: Behavioral Health Day at the Capitol
- **Feb. 11**: Autism Day at the Capitol
- **Feb. 21**: Multiple Sclerosis Day at the Capitol

Committee Hearings this week:
*Monday afternoon*: HB 83 (extreme risk protection orders) in HJC; HB 213 and 264 (new paid caregiving leave program) in HCEDC
*Tuesday morning*: HB 136 (voluntary driver registry) in HTPWC; HJR 3 (property tax exemption) in HLLC

Highlights from the past week:
- Eighteen House bills and twenty-five Senate bills have already been passed by the Legislature and sent to the governor for action. Many of the bills in this “rocket docket” relate to disability issues and are noted below in this report. In a typical 60-day session, it would be rare to have even a handful of bills moved through the legislative process so early.
- The House Appropriations and Finance Committee (HAFC) heard the Department of Health budget request last Thursday. Several advocates encouraged the committee to dedicate significant new funding to address the DD waiver waiting list, and a few committee members (Rep. Melanie Stansbury and Rep. Jack Chatfield) did so as well. Secretary-designate Kathy Kunkle indicated that the governor has made it clear that she expects the department to address this issue in a major way.
- Human Services Department (HSD) Secretary-designate David Scrase strongly supported the department’s request for additional funding for the Medicaid program in hearings before the Senate Finance Committee on Thursday and the HAFC on Friday. Dr. Scrase told the committee that the department will work to enroll people who are eligible for Medicaid but not enrolled in the program, and will soon request federal approval to eliminate problematic
aspects of the new Centennial Care 2.0 waiver, including premiums, co-pays and ending retroactive eligibility.

- HB 90, to legalize aid in dying for terminally ill patients, passed the House Health and Human Services Committee with a few amendments; it now goes to the House Judiciary Committee.
- SB 123, providing that individuals who have earned sick leave through an employer’s benefit program may use such leave to care for a family member, passed SPAC; it now goes to the Senate Judiciary Committee.
- SB 152, directing the Department of Health to establish a grievance procedure for persons challenging the emergency administration of medication, has been put on hold by the sponsor pending potential amendments to the bill.
- On Saturday, the Senate and House Education Committees met jointly to hear public input into issues related to public education, particularly related to efforts to improve and reform the system as required by a recent court order. Hundreds of people attended from all over the state, and most of them provided brief testimony to the committees.

New bills introduced this past week:
- HB 416 and SB 405 - Medicaid buy-in
- HB 422 - Updating membership and duties of DDPC
- HB 436 - Incorporating ACA protections in state law
- SB 395 - Guardianship/conservatorship changes, implementing recommendations of the Guardianship Reform committee
- SB 398 - Screening and services to children with dyslexia.

Bills and Memorials Introduced in the 2019 Session

This list is grouped by disability or subject matter and shows the bill number, sponsor, a description of the bill and the current committee assignments and action taken on the bill or memorial. The report also includes a few bills or memorials expected but not yet introduced. The deadline for introducing most bills is the half-way point of the session, which this year is Thursday, February 14th. Memorials can be introduced at any time.

Behavioral Health/Mental Health
**HB 43** Behavioral health interventions for non-violent offenders. Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton. Charges the Human Services Department with responsibility to develop a method for meeting the needs of non-violent offenders with behavioral health diagnoses when they are in jail or prison and to connect them with supports and services when they are released, to reduce recidivism. HSD would be required to set up a grant program for counties seeking funds to implement the program. Appropriates $1.5 million to HSD for this purpose. Passed HHHS, pending in HAFC.

**HB 59** Non-discrimination against art therapists. Rep. Christine Trujillo. Requires insurance companies to pay licensed art therapists for the services they provide if those services are covered by a policy and they pay other behavioral health providers for the same services. Tabled indefinitely in HHHC and very unlikely to move forward.

**HB 83** Extreme risk protection orders. Rep. Daymon Ely. Allows for court orders for police to seize guns from those determined to pose a high risk of violence to themselves or others. The bill does not include any reference to mental illness, and is written so that it would apply to cases
of domestic violence or other threatening situations, but the sponsor of the bill has made it clear that the primary intent of the bill is to allow for the confiscation of guns from people with mental illness who are suicidal or who pose a threat of gun violence to family members or other individuals. Passed HCPAC; HJC hearing this Monday afternoon.

**HB 153** Suicide awareness training. Rep. Patricio Ruiloba. Requires virtually all licensed health care providers to receive a one-hour training annually on suicide awareness and prevention. Passed HHHC, pending in HJC.

**HB 267** Info sharing and local councils. Rep. Daymon Ely. Allows for information sharing without individual consent for research purposes or for continuity of care for persons with mental illness or developmental disabilities who are entering or being discharged from criminal justice facilities. Establishes local criminal justice coordinating councils and provides grants for reform initiatives. The bill includes an appropriation of $35.5 million. Passed HSEIC, pending in HJC, then HAFC.

**HB 342** Criminal justice reforms. Rep. Antonio Maestas. One part of this omnibus bill is nearly the same as HB 43, above, directing HSD to develop a method for meeting the needs of persons with behavioral health diagnoses when they are in jail or prison and to connect them with supports and services when they are released. HSD would be required to set up a grant program for counties seeking funds to implement the program. This bill is not limited to non-violent offenders, and because there is no appropriation in the bill, these provisions would not go into effect until funding is provided. HJC.

**HB 348** Emergency MH evaluations and restrictions on release of information. Rep. James Strickler. Current state law allows a mental health professional to ask law enforcement officers to detain and transport an individual for emergency evaluation and treatment if the person poses an immediate danger to self or others due to mental illness. This bill would allow a court to order such detention and transport for the same reason, and the court order would allow the law enforcement officer to enter a building where the person is believed to be present, in order to carry out the detention and transport, without the consent of the person or the owner of the building. The bill establishes the right of a law enforcement officer to enter a building without consent when there is an emergency and an immediate need to assist a person or protect property. In addition, the bill extensively amends the state MH/DD Code to separate a police report containing information about a person’s mental health condition from any other police report related to that person. The record containing mental health information, and any police officer dash camera or belt camera recordings, would generally be confidential and not subject to release to the public except by court order. A judge considering a request for an order to release such information would be required to balance the public interest, the individual’s right to privacy, and the individual’s best interest. HHHC/HJC.

**HB 364** Limiting solitary confinement. Rep. Antonio Maestas. Prohibits jails and prisons from placing persons with serious mental illness in solitary confinement (“restricted housing”). This prohibition would not apply during the first five days of detention, and would cover persons whose diagnosis is known to the facility and those who are exhibiting obvious signs of mental illness. The bill also covers juveniles and pregnant women. HHHC/HJC.

**SB 64** Behavioral health investment zones. Sen. Cisco McSorley. Directs HSD to divide the state into different geographic zones, and give priority in targeting certain funding to zones with the highest needs. Tabled indefinitely [Sen. McSorley has resigned his Senate seat and bills that he pre-filed will not be acted upon].

**SB 128** Behavioral health clinic funding. Sen. Mary Kay Papen. Would allow behavioral health clinics in rural or other underserved areas, if owned by a county or municipality, to access funding from the Behavioral Health Capital Fund to assist with construction, repair or remodeling. Passed SPAC, pending in SFC.
SB 141 Interstate psychology compact. Sen. Jerry Ortiz y Pino. Adopts an interstate agreement regulating the temporary practice of psychology across state lines through tele-psychology. Passed SPAC, pending in SJC.
SB 152 MH-DD Code grievance procedure. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Requires the Department of Health to establish a grievance procedure to address disputes related to a client’s consent to mental health treatment or a determination that the client lacks the capacity to consent. Held over in SPAC while sponsor works on potential amendments.
SB 334 AOT Funding. Sen. Mary Kay Papen. Provides $1 million to the Department of Health to pass through to cities or counties that have implemented an Assisted Outpatient Treatment program for involuntary treatment of individuals with mental illness. SPAC/SFC.

Brain Injury
SB 171 Brain injury fee increase. Sen. Bill Tallman. Increases from $5.00 to $6.40 the portion of traffic violation fines that goes to support the Brain Injury Services Fund. Tabled indefinitely in SJC and very unlikely to move forward.
SB 327 Non-waiver of fine supporting BI fund. Sen. Cliff Pirtle. Requires that if an individual is cited for a traffic violation, the portion of the fine that is earmarked to support the Brain Injury Service Fund (currently $5 dollars) cannot be waived, deferred or suspended by a court. SCORC/SFC.

Deafness/Blindness
HB 96 Blind parents’ rights. Rep. Tomas Salazar. Prohibits blindness from being used as a basis for denial of parental rights. Passed HHHC, pending in HJC.
HB 243 Instructional opportunities for children with hearing impairment. Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil. Requires all school districts and charter schools to provide individualized instruction for children who are deaf or have moderate to severe hearing loss. The bill is intended to promote easier access to programs based solely on oral communication skills for children with hearing aids or cochlear implants. Public schools could provide such services directly or pay for placements at private schools such as the Presbyterian Ear Institute. Amendments to the bill are expected that would align language in the bill with the provisions of the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Passed HHHC, pending in HEC.

Developmental Disabilities
HB 68 Reduce the DD Waiver waiting list. Rep. Liz Thomson. Directs the Department of Health to move 600 individuals on the waiting list into waiver services each year over the next five years, and appropriates $25 million to the Department of Health for this purpose. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.
HB 69 Early detection of cerebral palsy. Rep. Liz Thomson. Appropriates $200,000 to the Department of Health to provide training to health care professionals on new methods for early detection of cerebral palsy. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.
HB 354 Autism diagnosis and services. Rep. Liz Thomson. Appropriates $3.6 million to the Department of Health to fund diagnostic and support services and a regional office on autism at both NMSU and UNM, to provide DD waiver services to youth who are now in residential treatment facilities, and to fund an intensive residential supports program at UNM. It also appropriates $400,000 to CYFD for wrap-around services for high needs youth. HHHC/HAFC.
HB 422 DDPC membership and duties. Rep. Joanne Ferrary. Updates the provisions of NM law establishing the DD Planning Council so that it is aligned with the provisions of federal law that govern the Council. HHHC/HSEIC.

SB 355 DD provider rate increases. Sen. Nancy Rodriguez. Appropriates $5 million for rate increases for agencies providing direct care services to individuals in the DD waiver program. SPAC/SFC.

SM 25 Medically fragile waiver task force. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Calls on the Center on Development and Disability at UNM to convene a task force to develop recommendations for amendments to the Medically Fragile waiver program. SRC/SPAC.

Education Issues

HB 5 Education changes. Rep. Sheryl Williams Stapleton. Proposes a variety of changes to education policy and funding processes, including higher teacher salaries, funding for extended school time, more professional development time, and requirements that school districts report on how they spend the funding they generate based on special education enrollment. Same as SB 1, below. HEC/HAFC.

SB 1 Education changes. Sen. Mimi Stewart. Same as HB 5, above. Passed SEC, pending in SFC.

SB 48 Diabetes management in schools. Sen. Mimi Stewart. Requires training of public school staff in diabetes management, requires school personnel to provide diabetes management services in conjunction with an approved plan for individual students, and allows students to self-manage their diabetes in school settings. Part of the “rocket docket”. Passed the Senate 31-10; passed the House 49-19. Awaiting action by the governor.

SB 179 Lottery scholarship eligibility. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Extends lottery scholarship eligibility to students with disabilities who had to attend an out-of-state high school in order to receive a free, appropriate education (as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act), if they graduated from an accredited school. Part of the “rocket docket”. Passed the Senate 41-0; passed the House 67-0. Awaiting action by the governor.

SB 204 Medical marijuana in schools. Sen. Candace Gould. Directs public schools to allow parents/guardians or designated school personnel to store and administer medical marijuana in the school if the child is certified to receive it under state law because of the child’s medical condition, but allows schools to opt out of this requirement in certain circumstances. Passed SPAC, pending in SJC.

SB 229 School support and accountability. Sen. Mimi Stewart. Repeals the A-B-C-D-F school rating system currently in place and replaces it with a new set of criteria for rating schools. Reports on school performance would have to include data specific to students with disabilities. Passed SEC with amendments, pending in SPAC.

SB 398 Screening and services to children with dyslexia. Sen. Mimi Stewart. Requires all school districts to screen first grade children for possible dyslexia, and to develop and implement a literary training program for all elementary school teachers. The bill repeals a provision in existing law requiring notice to parents that they may request a special education evaluation at any time while the child is receiving services recommended by a Student Assistance Team. SPAC/SEC.

Health Care

HB 48 Training on assisted listening technology. Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero. Requires audiologists and other hearing aid dispensers to provide information about assisted listening systems. Passed HHHC, pending in HSEIC.
HB 70 Health insurance coverage of prosthetics and orthotics. Rep. Liz Thomson. Requires insurance policies to cover prosthetics and orthotics to at least the same extent as Medicare and on terms equivalent to other covered services. Passed HHHC, pending in HCEDC.

HB 72 Occupational therapy practice act. Rep. Liz Thomson. Updates the OT practice act to reflect current standards and practices. Part of the “rocket docket”. Passed the House 68-0; passed the Senate 31-0. Awaiting action by the governor.

HB 81 Limiting co-pays for therapy services. Rep. Eliseo Alcon. Limits the co-pays that insurance companies charge for occupational therapy, physical therapy, or speech/language therapy to the amounts they charge for primary care visits. Passed HHHC, pending in HCEDC.

HB 88 Health care value & access commission. Rep. Debbie Armstrong. Establishes a state commission to gather data about health care services and costs and to make recommendations to improve and better coordinate the provision of health care services in NM. Same as SB 101, below. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.

HB 89 Aid in Dying. Rep. Debbie Armstrong. Authorizes prescriptions that an individual with a terminal illness could self-administer that would bring about the person’s death. Amended to apply to individuals expected to die due to the illness within six months, and eliminates the use of tele-health as a mechanism for a consulting health care professional to confirm the person’s capacity and voluntariness. Similar to SB 153, below. Passed HHHC, pending in HJC.

HB 142 Pre-existing condition exclusions. Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero. Prohibits health insurers from denying coverage to persons with pre-existing conditions, but does not prohibit higher premiums for coverage or annual or lifetime coverage limits. HHHC/HJC.

HB 143 PCS rate and wage increase. Rep. Christine Trujillo. Provides $6 million to HSD to increase provider reimbursement rates for Medicaid personal care services, with a requirement that at least half of the money be used to increase wages for the workers who provide personal care services. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.

HB 213 Family and medical leave program. Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero. Creates a new benefit program allowing employees to take paid leave to take care of themselves or other family members experiencing a serious medical condition. The benefit would be paid for through employee contributions and administered by the Department of Workforce Solutions. HCEDC/HJC/HEC. HCEDC hearing scheduled for Monday, Feb. 4.

HB 264 Family and medical leave program. Rep. Christine Chandler. This bill also creates a new benefit program providing paid leave for employees who need to take care of themselves or a family member due to a serious medical condition. The program would be funded by both employer and employee contributions. HCEDC/HJC/HEC. HCEDC hearing scheduled for Monday, Feb. 4.

HB 285 Short-term and limited-benefit insurance plans. Rep. Micaela Cadena. Establishes state standards for these plans and authorizes the Superintendent of Insurance to regulate them. HHHC/HEC.

HB 295 Health Security Act. Rep. Debbie Armstrong. Establishes a state Health Care Commission, beginning in 2021, with the authority to design a single-payer health care system for the state of New Mexico. The bill calls for the development of a plan for adding long-term services and supports to the plan after the first year of plan implementation. Same as SB 279, below. HHHC/HSEIC/HAFC

HB 322 Autism coverage. Rep. Liz Thomson. Prohibits health insurance companies and the Medicaid program from imposing age limits or expense limits on covered services for persons with autism. Such limits are prohibited under the federal Affordable Care Act, which has been challenged in court, but are not currently included in state law. HCPAC/HHHS.
HB 414  Nursing home closures. Rep. Susan Herrera. Requires nursing homes to provide at least 90 days notice to residents, the Long Term Care Ombudsman and others before a facility can be closed, and requires transition planning for the residents.

HB 416  Medicaid buy-in. Creates a Medicaid buy-in program to offer a new health coverage option that will increase affordability and access to care by leveraging the Medicaid program. Same as SB 405, below. HHHC/HAFc.

HB 436  Incorporate ACA protections into state law. Rep. Liz Thomson. Amends New Mexico law to include many of the provisions of the ACA, such as prohibiting denial of coverage based on pre-existing conditions, prohibiting charging higher premiums based on a person’s disability, requiring coverage of essential health benefits, eliminating co-pays for preventive services, etc. HHHC/HSEIC/HJC.

SB 41  Medicaid providers due process. Sen. Mary Kay Papen. Provides protections for Medicaid providers accused of fraud. Passed SJC, pending in SFC.

SB 85  Domestic worker minimum wage. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Repeals the provision of current state law that exempts “domestic workers” from minimum wage requirements. This would assure that personal care workers, among others, would receive at least the state minimum wage, and that the Department of Workforce Solutions would enforce their rights to such wages. Passed SPAC, pending in SCORC.

SB 101  Health care value & access commission. Sen. Jeff Steinborn. Same as HB 88, above. Passed SPAC, pending in SJC, then to SFC.

SB 112  Limiting insurance policy changes. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Prohibits health insurers from changing coverage or co-pays for prescription drugs during a plan year, and requires notice of any proposed changes at least 90 days before a new plan year. SPAC/SJC. Held over in SPAC while sponsor considers amendments.

SB 123  Using sick leave for caregiving. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Allows employees of private businesses as well as state and public school employees who have accumulated sick leave provided by their employer to use such leave for the purpose of caring for an ailing family member. Passed SPAC, pending in SJC.

SB 153  Aid in dying. Sen. Liz Stefanics. Same as original version of HB 90, above. SPAC/SJC.

SB 185  Monitoring neurological disorders. Sen. Jeff Steinborn. Appropriates $100,000 to the Department of Health to establish a program to monitor the incidence of neurological disorders and to identify, prevent and treat such disorders. Passed SPAC, pending in SFC.


SB 405  Medicaid buy-in. Sen. Jerry Ortiz y Pino. Creates a Medicaid buy-in program to offer a new health coverage option that will increase affordability and access to care by leveraging the Medicaid program. Same as HB 416, above. SPAC/SFC.

Home Modifications for Accessibility

HB 82  Home rehab for veterans. Rep. Eliseo Alcon. Appropriates $2 million to the Mortgage Finance Authority to rehabilitate homes owned and occupied by low-income veterans; includes home modifications for accessibility. Same as SB 46, below. Passed HLVMC, pending in HAFC.

SB 46  Home rehab for veterans. Sen. Richard Martinez. Same as HB 82, above. Passed SPAC, pending in SFC.

SB 139  Funding for GCD programs. Sen. Jerry Ortiz y Pino. Appropriates $300,000 to the Governor’s Commission on Disability for its assistive technology and home modifications programs. Passed SPAC, pending in SFC.
Motor Vehicles/Accessible Parking

HB 136 Voluntary driver registry. Rep. Liz Thomson. Allows but does not require persons with disabilities to note, in conjunction with their car registration, that they have a disability that might affect their ability to communicate. Law enforcement officers would be required to consult the registry prior to interacting with a motorist and to take appropriate steps when attempting to communicate with a driver or regular passenger who is on the registry. HTPWC/HJC. HTPWC hearing Tuesday, Feb. 5.

HB 209 Car registration fee waiver. Rep. Miguel Garcia. Allows a low-income person with a severe, permanent disability to register one vehicle owned by the person without having to pay the usual registration fee. HTPWC/HTRC.

HB 245 Accessibility icon on specialty plates Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil. Directs the Motor Vehicle Division to develop an accessibility emblem or decal that could be affixed to any other specialty license plate. Same as SB 206, below, but not part of the “rocket docket”. HTPWC/HTRC.

HB 248 Blocking accessible parking spaces. Rep. Martin Zamora. Makes it unlawful to park a motor vehicle in such a way that it blocks access to an accessible parking space, and establishes a fine of $250 to $500 for violations (the same as illegally parking in an accessible space). HTPWC/HJC.

SB 189 Parking placards for disability agencies. Sen. Sander Rue. Allows agencies that own or lease vehicles used to transport individuals with disabilities to obtain parking placards for those vehicles, allowing them to be parked in accessible parking spaces. Part of the “rocket docket”.

Passed the Senate 40-0; passed the House 67-0. Awaiting action by the governor.

SB 206 Accessibility icon on specialty plates. Sen. Mark Moores. Directs the Motor Vehicle Division to develop an accessibility emblem or decal that could be affixed to any other specialty license plate. Same as HB 245, above. Although this bill is part of the “rocket docket”, it is not receiving the expedited handling for other bills on that list. SCORC.

SB 236 2nd free license plate for disabled veterans. Sen. Ron Griggs. Allows disabled veterans to obtain two free specialty licenses plates; under current law, they can get one free plate. Part of the “rocket docket”. Passed the Senate 38-0; passed the House 67-0. Awaiting action by the governor.

Protective Arrangements and Services / Investigations

HB 61 Sexual assault study. Rep. Christine Trujillo. Appropriates $450,000 to the Crime Victims Reparation Commission to conduct a study of sexual assaults against persons with disabilities and to identify needed improvements in data collection to support future steps to address this problem. Passed HHHHC, pending in HAFC.

SB 42 Expanding the use of “silver alerts”. Sen. Richard Martinez. Expands these alerts to include endangered missing persons of any age who have dementia, and to all endangered missing persons over 50 years old. It also expands the dissemination of such alerts. Passed SPAC, pending in SJC.

SB 395 Guardianship reforms. Sen. James White. Clarifies the right of allegedly incapacitated persons to participate, present evidence, and cross-examine witnesses during court hearings. Strengthens the requirement for a court review of existing guardianships at least every ten years by requiring the appointment of an investigator to assess the person’s capacity and to report to the court on the need for continuing guardianship. Requires professional guardians and conservators to be certified and in good standing with a national or state certifying organization. Deletes an existing provision giving guardians of adults all the same rights as a parent of a minor child. SPAC/SJC.
SM 22 Sexual assault task force. Sen. Linda Lopez. Calls for a task force, appointed by the Legislature, to make recommendations on how to improve and coordinate reporting of sexual assaults against individuals with disabilities. SRC/SPAC.

Tax Exemptions/Limitations

HJR 3 Low-income property tax exemption. Rep. Miguel Garcia. Would amend the state constitution to exempt very low-income persons with severe disabilities from property taxes on a home they own and occupy. HLLC/HTRC. HLLC hearing scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 5.

SB 220 Increasing income limits for property tax limitation. Sen. Peter Wirth. Current law sets limits on increases of property taxes for low- to moderate-income homeowners who are elderly or have severe disabilities. This bill increases the income cap to qualify for the limitation from $32,000 to $35,000. Passed SPAC, pending in SCORC.

Other

SB 53 State park accessibility. Sen. Jeff Steinborn. Requires the adoption of state rules intended to make state parks as affordable for and accessible to all state residents as possible. SCONC/SPAC.

SB 63 Medical and geriatric parole. Sen. Cisco McSorley. Directs the Corrections Department to implement a program providing parole for eligible inmates who are elderly, permanently incapacitated, or terminally ill. Tabled indefinitely. [Sen. McSorley has resigned his Senate seat and bills that he pre-filed will not be acted upon].

Contacting your Legislators

You can find out who your senator and representative are and get their contact information on the Legislature’s web page: https://www.nmlegis.gov/Members/Find_My_Legislator.

From this page, choose “Search by Your Address” for either the House of Representatives or the Senate. Then …

- Enter your full home address in the box provided under “Your Address” and click on “Search”.
- You should now see a picture of your Representative or Senator.
- Click on his or her name to get contact information.

Each legislator has an office in the Capitol during the session. You can find the office phone number in the contact information provided through the Find My Legislator function, or you can call the Capitol switchboard at 986-4300 and ask to be put through to the office of any legislator. We encourage you to bring the voice of the disability community to the Legislature!

Policy and Legislative Action Network (PLAN): Join your friends and colleagues in working to promote favorable action on issues of concern to people with disabilities and their families. Become part of the PLAN! We'll let you know when there are opportunities to speak out on bills in the Legislature and other key issues, and give you background info and talking points; you show the power of the disability community by following up with calls or emails to public officials. Sign up by sending an email to info@drnm.org and put PLAN in the subject line.
ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

Legislative Committees
   HAFC  House Appropriations and Finance Committee
   HCEDC House Commerce and Economic Development Committee
   HCPAC House Consumer and Public Affairs Committee
   HEC  House Education Committee
   HHHC House Health and Human Services Committee
   HJC  House Judiciary Committee
   HLVM House Labor, Veterans, and Military Affairs
   HLLC House Local Government, Land Grants and Cultural Affairs Committee
   HSEIC House State Government, Elections and Indian Affairs Committee
   HTPWC House Transportation and Public Works Committee
   HTRC House Taxation and Revenue Committee
   SCC  Senate Committees Committee
   SCORC Senate Corporations Committee
   SEC  Senate Education Committee
   SFC  Senate Finance Committee
   SJC  Senate Judiciary Committee
   SPAC Senate Public Affairs Committee
   LFC  Legislative Finance Committee (joint House-Senate committee that meets during the interim between legislative sessions)

State Agencies
   ALTSD  Aging and Long Term Services Department
   DDPC  Developmental Disabilities Planning Council
   DOH  Department of Health
   GCD  Governor’s Commission on Disability
   HSD  Human Services Department
   PED  Public Education Department
   WFS  Workforce Solutions Department