



Governor's Commission on Disabilities

Monday November 30, 2015 5 PM - 6:30 PM

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Attendees: R. Timothy Flynn (Chair.); Rosemary Carmody; (Vice Chair.); Andrew Argenbright; Judith Drew; Casey Gartland; James Pitassi; Arthur Plitt; John Ringland; Angelina Stabile; Linda Ward & Gary Witman
Absentees: Patricia Baccus; Frederick Burke; Sarah Everhart Skeels; William Inlow; Msgr. Gerard Sabourin; & Dawn Wardyga

Guests:

Staff: Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary



5:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Timothy Flynn, Chair

Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:01 PM
 Introductions of Commissioners and guests



MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented
 Motion moved by JP, seconded by AS, passed unanimously

Action Items:



5:05 Adoption of 2016 Meeting Schedule, Timothy Flynn, Chair

Purpose/Goal: To adopt a schedule of Commission and committee meeting for 2016.

Discussion:

Governor's Commission on Disabilities 2016 Meeting Schedule **draft**

The Commission's aim is to make sure that all people with disabilities have the same rights and duties as anyone else. They also should be able to be work and live independently.

The Commission meets 3rd Mondays 5 - 6:30 PM: 04/18th; 07/18th; 09/12th; and 11/28th.



Accessibility Committee

The Committee develops state's 504/ADA Transition Plan, for removing access barriers in state owned buildings, schools, colleges, beaches, and parks. The Committee also oversees the ADA accessibility training and services.

The Accessibility Committee meets the 4th Monday 2 - 3 PM: 04/25th; 06/22nd; 8/22nd; and 10/24th.



The Committee helps small business owner with a disability try to win state contracts. The Disability Business Enterprise Committee will not meet until the Department of Administration issues new Purchasing Regulations.



The Committee makes sure voters with disabilities can cast a secret vote without help. Local boards of canvassers are paid to remove access barriers at polling places. A videotape is used to train election officials and poll place workers. Adults with disabilities are trained on how to vote and registered to vote. They are also encouraged to serve as poll workers. The Election Assistance Committee meets the 2nd Thursday 2 - 3 PM: 05/14th; 08/13th; and 10/13th.



The Committee oversees the ADA employment training and services. The Committee promotes work and work incentives. The Committee also plans an annual employment conference, in October (National Disability Employment Awareness Month). The Employment Committee meets the 2nd Thursday 9:30 - 11 AM: 04/14th; 06/09th; 08/11th; 10/13th.



The Board decides if unfairness (discrimination) was caused by access barriers. [RIGL 42-87] The Board approves state agencies requests to lease places with access barriers. The agency must have a plan to make all services and employment accessible. [RIGL 37-8-15.1] The Board decides if a member of a government committee who is disabled can take part in meetings by telephone or aid. The member is not able to get to the meeting room due to the disability. [RIGL 42-46-5(b)(3&4)] The Board approves Open Meeting Access Plans from local and state government. [RIGL 42-46-13] The Hearing Board meets to conduct hearings, upon request.



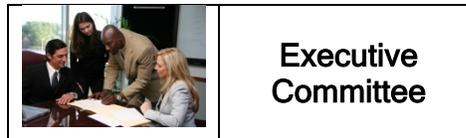
The Committee runs meetings to find out the concerns (fears) of people with disabilities and their families, the last full week in July. The Committee writes bills to better the lives of people

with disabilities. The Committee reads other bills that might help or hurt on people with disabilities. The Committee lets the General Assembly know about the bills. The Committee then lets the Governor know about the bills.

The Legislation Committee meets the 1st Monday 3 - 4:30 PM: 01/04th; 02/02nd; 03/07th; 04/04th; 05/2nd; 06/06th; 07/11th; 08/10th; 10/03rd; 11/07th; and 12/05th. The Committee sponsors a series of Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families, throughout the state during the week of July 25th - 29th.



The Committee steers the State Government's carrying out of the disability rights laws. [Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504, Civil Rights of People with Disabilities, etc.] The State Coordinating Committee on Disability Rights only meets if needed to coordinate compliance activities amongst the difference branches of government (executive, judicial, and legislative). There are no regularly scheduled meetings.



This Committee is in charge when the Commission is not meeting. The Committee talks to students who want to be fellows. Then the Committee hires the Fellows. The Committee talks to people who want to work for the Commission. The Committee advises the Commission who to hire.

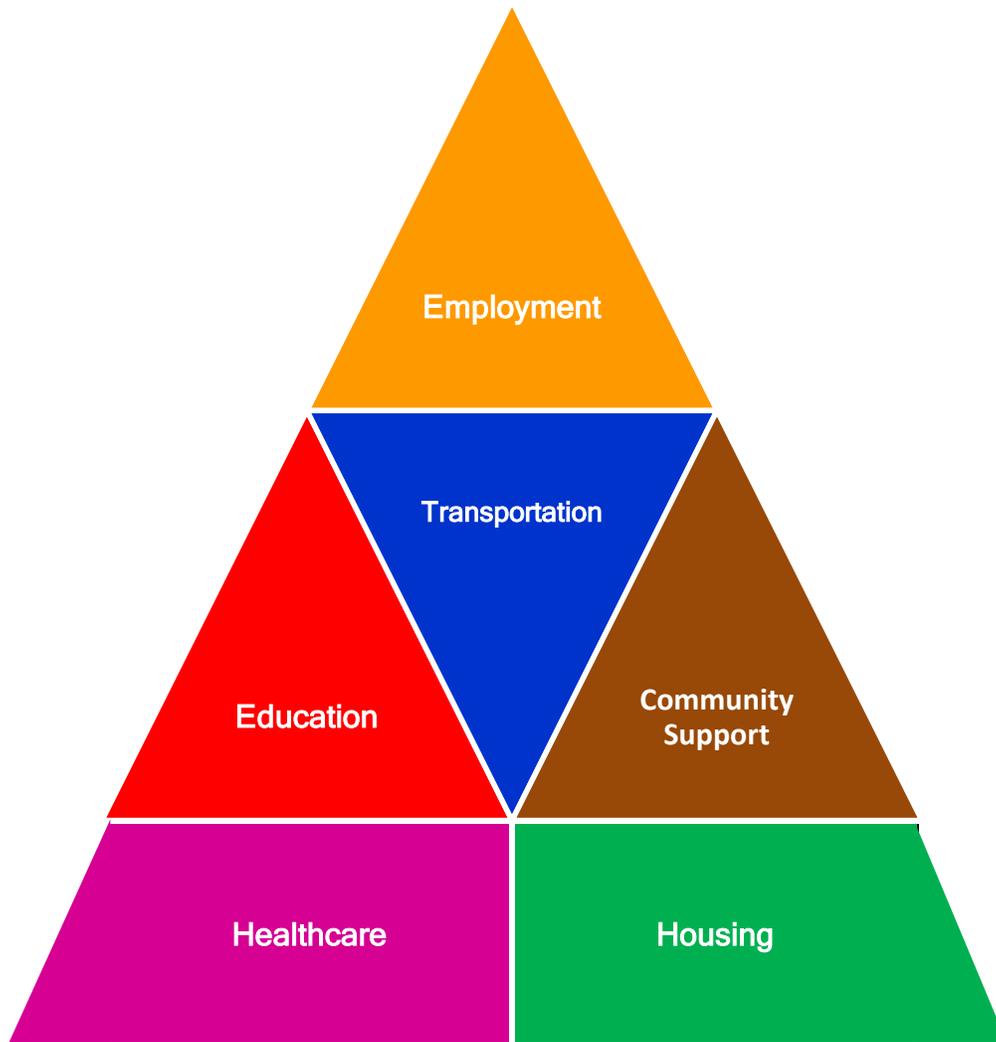
The Executive Committee meetings the 3rd Mondays 430 - 5:30 PM: 03/16th (spring & fall fellowship interviews); 08/29th and 12/07th (winter fellowship interviews).

August annual planning meetings to review of achievements and develop operations plans and budget requests for the next two program years.

	<p>Potential Motion: To adopt the 2016 Meeting Schedule as presented Motion moved by CG, seconded by LW, passed unanimously</p>
	<p><i>5:15 Adoption of the Commission's 2016 Package of Legislative & Administrative Initiatives, Linda Ward, Chair, Legislation Committee</i></p>
	<p>Purpose/Goal: To decide which items from the 2015 Legislative Package to retain and which concerns raised at the Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families to include in the 2016 Legislative Package.</p>
	<p>Discussion: The Legislation Committee recommends retaining all the items from the 2015 Package of Legislative and Administrative Initiatives, and incorporating from the 2015 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families below.</p>

DRAFT Independence and Employment First Disability Policy:

2016 Legislative and Administrative Initiatives



One-stop service center for the coordination of all healthcare, housing, human services, and employment supports

Initiative	2015 Status
Healthcare/Medicaid employment support services needed to sustain paid work¹; to remain maximum independent	
a) Legislative:	
i) Increase the level of funding for:	No progress
(1) In-state traumatic brain injury comprehensive treatment center	New
(2) Parents to receive caregiver stipends for adult children with severe impairments.	New

¹ § 40-8.7-4 Definitions (3) "Employment Support Services" means activities work including: benefits counseling; supervision; job coaching; vocational evaluation; case management; job development; customized employment; job training; transportation; training; tools; equipment; and technology, subject to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approval.

Initiative	2015 Status
(3) Annually increase the state's share of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits to match the federal SSI benefits cost of living adjustment.	New
(4) Incontinent supplies (double ply adult diapers);	New
(5) Adult daily activity services for individuals with developmental disabilities	New
(6) Assistive technology	New
(7) Respiratory therapist services in nursing homes	New
ii) Restore the 2008 eligibility rules / level of services for children in the Katie Beckett program and children with autism spectrum disorders;	No progress
b) Administrative:	
i) Promote and expand the use of the RIGL 40-8.7 Health Care Assistance for Working People with Disabilities (Sherlock Plan);	Slow progress
ii) The right to medically necessary brand name drugs without requiring two generic failures before allowing brand name;	The Office Of The Health Insurance Commissioner To Study The Notification Requirements For Changes To Prescription Drug Plan Formularies And Assess The Impact On Persons ²
iii) Multiple Retain drop-in peer support behavioral healthcare service delivery models;	No progress
iv) Post-Global Medicaid Consumer Choice Waiver Transition Plan. <i>Recommend replacing the above with the</i> Establishment of a process for the Commission to take a position on Medicaid Regulation Changes, using the Legislation Committee ;	No progress New
v) The Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) provide training to staff, including and providers regarding who are qualified to administer injectable medications;	New – Bob addition
vi) The Department of Health should require all hospitals and urgent/emergency healthcare facilities to have: on-call sign language interpreters readily available; staff certified in American Sign Language; or Video Reporting Interpreting ³ ;	New
vii) The Department of Health should require all hospitals urgent/emergency healthcare facilities to have a Wi-Fi and chemically free examination/bed room to serve patients with chemical sensitivity or electromagnetic sensitivity and require the use of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Indoor Environmental Quality Guidelines for personnel to use when in those rooms.	New
viii) US Access Board adopt a Wi-Fi free access standard for a free examination/bed room in hospitals, urgent and emergency healthcare facilities.	New

² Invite the Health Insurance Commissioner to send a representative to the Dec. 7th Legislation Committee meeting to discuss **S 1016 Senate Resolution Respectfully Requesting The Office Of The Health Insurance Commissioner To Study The Notification Requirements For Changes To Prescription Drug Plan Formularies And Assess The Impact On Persons.**

³ In consultation with the RI Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Initiative	2015 Status
ix) Referred assistive technology concerns to the State Rehabilitation Council	New
Housing supports need for successful employment	
a) Legislative:	
i) Restore the Neighborhood Opportunities Program ⁴ funding;	RI Housing directed to support of the Neighborhood Opportunities Program with no added state funds
ii) Create supportive housing programs for:	No funding
(1) Homeless individuals with disabilities; housing coupled with services and case management to stabilize in permanent housing at affordable rents for persons receiving Supplemental Social Security Income (SSI).	No progress
(2) Former convicts with behavioral health needs; housing coupled with long-term support services and case management to facilitate re-entry into the community.	New
iii) Expansion of Affordable Housing— require at least two additional affordable housing units for cities and towns that have not met the affordable housing goals; and	Defeated efforts to reduce the existing 10% standard
iv) Maintain Home Modification funding level.	Funding maintained
Education needed to become and remain employable	
a) Legislative:	
(1) Assistive technology	New
i) Enactment of the 2016 versions of H 5383 ⁵ and S 299 SUB A act would direct all school superintendents to review discipline data for their school district, to decide whether there is an unequal a disparate impact on students based on race, ethnicity, or disability status; and to respond to any disparity.	Both passed their chamber but died in the abrupt adjournment on the last night.
b) Administrative:	
i) The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education should ensure all children have the accommodations needed for success; especially children with language based learning disabilities, deaf or hard of hearing;	New
ii) <u>The Employment Committee and/or RIPIN should [c]onduct workshops on accommodating college students with language-based learning disabilities.</u>	New - Bob addition
iii) The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education should <u>initiate a 5-year look-back study</u> adopt an accommodation standard for elementary and secondary school students with chemical sensitivities or electro-magnetic field sensitivities.	New
Community supports needed to obtain and remain employed	
a) Administrative:	
i) Ensure replacement voting machines are fully accessible and used at all elections, including financial town meetings and all polling places are accessible;	New

⁴ The Neighborhood Opportunities Program provides Family Affordable Housing - housing for very low-income families; and Permanent Supportive Housing - housing for disabled and special needs persons coupled with essential services.

⁵ H 5383 <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText15/HouseText15/H5383.pdf> and S 299 SUB A <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText15/SenateText15/S0299A.pdf>

Initiative	2015 Status
ii) Conduct training for managers of retail and grocery store and other businesses on accessible layouts;	New - Bob addition
iii) US Department of Justice to adopt a Wi-Fi free accommodation standard on what steps retail or grocery stores and other private businesses should take to serve customers with electro-magnetic field sensitivity or chemical sensitivity;	New
iv) The Department of Environmental Management should purchase <u>additional</u> beach/surf-wheelchairs at <u>state public</u> beaches;	New
v) Provide training on the ADA requirements for state and local government ADA/504 Coordinators;	New
vi) Courtrooms and jury deliberation rooms must have an accessible path between them. In older facilities with stairs to the jury deliberation rooms, trials must be moved to an accessible facilities to accommodation members of a jury who is unable to climb stairs;	New
vii) All post offices comply with the US Access Board's regulations.	New
viii) The US Access Board should adopt a Wi-Fi free access standard, for government facilities with hardware and insulation from electro-magnetic fields.	New
ix) US Department of Justice to adopt a chemical sensitivity accommodation standard for government services, schools, public housing, and other government-funded services.	New - Bob addition
x) Conduct a workshop on accessing religion in conjunction with the RI Council of Churches, Board of Rabbis of Greater RI, Roman Catholic Diocese, Islamic Centers, Buddhist Temples, and other faith communities.	New - Bob addition
xi) The Department of Transportation should: (1) <u>Require an assessment of the safety of pedestrians with disability before the installation of curb cuts, signage; and crosswalks (including audible signaling); and</u> (2) <u>Require pedestrian crossing signs alerting to motorists when crosswalks are on the downslope of a hill.</u>	New
xii) Create public service announcements to inform the public on the use of disability parking and remind police departments of their obligations under RIGL 31-28-7.3 Disability parking enforcement program.	New
Transportation to education, employment, job training, health care, etc.	
a) Legislative:	
i) Maintain the existing RIPTA/RIde service areas;	No reduction in areas of service
ii) Adequate funding/new & stable funding source;	RIPTA received \$2 million state extra \$1.5 million in gas tax
iii) Expand the RIPTA/RIde service areas/hours beyond the existing service/hours to provide a statewide service;	No progress
iv) Require RIPTA to establish a sliding scale fare for both RIPTA & RIde passengers;	RIPTA authorized to eliminate the off-peak hours' no-fare rate for low income seniors and people with disabilities
v) Transportation Study Commission	No action New - Bob addition

Initiative	2015 Status
(add)Office of Health and Human Services and RIPTA assess the level of LogistiCare and Rlde passenger satisfaction with the current systems. ^(add)	
vi) Shorten the time window for Rlde’s standing order passengers (i.e. traveling to work the same days and times on a fixed basis) should be reduced from ½ hr to ¼ hr.	New - Bob addition
vii) RIPTA should purchase / retrofit wheelchair lifts & tie downs to accommodate larger and heavier wheelchairs.	New - Bob addition
viii) RIPTA’s automated stop announcement system should be in use when buses pull-up to Kennedy Plaza and other RIPTA hubs to alert passengers with low or no vision.	New - Bob addition
ix) Accessible transit service to major events, such as Bristol 4 th of July Parade, Chinese Dragon Boat Races & Taiwan Day Festival, Jazz Fest Newport, Newport Folk Festival, Wickford Art, <u>Charlestown Seafood Festival</u> , and other high attendance events.	New - Bob addition
Shift from a multi-departmental service delivery system to one-stop service center for the coordination of all healthcare, housing, human services, and employment supports	
a) Administrative:	
i) Single point of entry for all services; (1) Similar to the Benefits Bank Web Portal ⁶ with (2) Peer Navigators and/or Benefits Specialists to assist citizens through the eligibility process for services.	Work in progress, potential to build out from either HealthSourceRI ⁷ or the Community Health Equity Zones ⁸
ii) Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education should create an early identification database to identify young adults two years prior to their transition into adult service system, to properly budget for the increased caseload.	New - Bob addition
iii) RI Disability Law Center and/or RI Parent Information Network should produce an easy to read booklet regarding the guardianship options for families.	New
Resulting in Employment	
a) Administrative:	

⁶ Similar to the multi-state Benefits Bank.

The Benefit Bank is a web-based service that simplifies and centralizes the process of applying for many state and federal benefits for low- and moderate-income individuals and families. Through its eligibility-screening tool, The Benefit Bank can ensure that people are fully aware of the benefits to which they are entitled and, as an expert system, it helps maximize the benefits and tax refunds they can secure. The "one-stop-shop" concept of The Benefit Bank reduces the amount of time needed to apply for benefits. Further, the information a person enters is stored securely, so an individual who wishes to reapply for benefits, apply for new benefits or file future tax returns simply needs to enter his or her username and password to initiate this new action.

The Benefit Bank is a free service. No consumer can be charged for using The Benefit Bank online service. If an organization provides counselor candidates, a computer, a printer, Internet access and a phone in a setting that is respectful and private, they can offer The Benefit Bank online service. From the start, The Benefit Bank has been structured to assure the privacy and confidentiality of all client data. Developed for use by a wide range of community based, faith-based, governmental, job-training, healthcare or social service agencies, The Benefit Bank can be part of a community-wide response to poverty. The Benefit Bank not only provides the opportunity to help neighbors but also provides information for organizations to more effectively advocate for policies that had better serve their communities. An innovative public-private partnership of state/local governments and a broad, statewide coalition committed to helping neighbors move towards self-sufficiency by utilizing The Benefit Bank, has resulted in tens of millions of dollars being returned each year to low and moderate income individuals and families.

⁷ <http://healthsourceri.com/>

⁸ <http://www.health.ri.gov/projects/healthequityzones/>

Initiative	2015 Status
i) Implement the National Governor’s Association’s “A Better Bottom Line: Employing People with Disabilities: Blueprint for Governors”: (1) Make disability employment part of the state workforce development strategy; (2) Find and support businesses in their efforts to employ people with disabilities; (3) Be a model employer by increasing the number of people with disabilities working in state government; (4) Prepare youth with disabilities for careers that use their full potential, providing employers with a pipeline of skilled workers; and (5) Make the best use of limited resources to advance employment opportunities for people with disabilities ⁹ .	Work in progress
ii) Improve school to adult transitional services / employment / post-secondary education;	Enacted RIPL 2015 Chapters 118 & 130 ¹⁰
iii) Maintain a range of employment options.	No progress
iv) Involve the CommerceRI ¹¹ in increasing awareness and inclusion of working age adults with disabilities interested in self-employment in: Urban Ventures ¹² ; Betaspring ¹³ ; Social Enterprise Greenhouse ¹⁴ ; and other micro and small business accelerators.	New - Bob addition
v) Department of Administration revise the purchasing regulations by incorporating the provisions of RIGL 37-2.2 Disability Business Enterprises ¹⁵ and 37-2.4 Habilitation Procurement Program ¹⁶ .	No progress

⁹ The Governor’s Workforce Board, Secretary of Commerce, Secretary of Health and Human Services, and Director of Labor and Training

¹⁰ **Acts Relating To Delinquent And Dependent Children -- Proceedings In Family Court** Mandates the development of a transition plan by the department of children, youth and families in collaboration with the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals for all children, under the jurisdiction of the family court, are developmentally delayed or seriously emotionally disturbed prior to the child turning one (21) years of age addressing housing, placement options, health insurance, education, employment services, mentors and continuing support services. It would also mandate transition planning for other youth who will be receiving services from the department of behavioral healthcare, developmental disabilities and hospitals after their twenty-first birthday.

¹¹ CommerceRI collaborating with the Office of Rehabilitative Services, Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Development Disabilities and Hospitals, the Department of Labor and Training and the Governor’s Workforce Board

¹² <http://www.urbanventuresri.org/>

¹³ <http://www.betaspring.com/>

¹⁴ <http://segreenhouse.org/>

¹⁵ <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE37/37-2.2/INDEX.HTM>

¹⁶ <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/Statutes/TITLE37/37-2.4/INDEX.HTM>

MOTION: To adopt the 2016 Package of Legislative & Administrative Initiatives as revised as follows:

From the Healthcare/Medicaid Section

a) i)(5) Delete the words “daily activity”

Delete a) i)(6) Assistive technology

Reword b) iii) ~~Multiple~~ “Retain drop-in peer support behavioral healthcare service” ~~delivery models~~;

Delete b) v) The Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental

Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH) provide training to staff, including and providers regarding who are qualified to administer injectable medications;

Delete b) vi) “and urgent/emergency healthcare facilities”;

Reword Healthcare ix) to: “Referred assistive technology concerns to the State Rehabilitation Council”;

From the Housing Section

Delete a) iii) Expansion of Affordable Housing - require at least two additional affordable housing units for cities and towns that have not met the affordable housing goals;

From the Education Section

Reword a) i) Enactment of the 2016 versions of H [5383](#)¹⁷ and S [299 SUB A](#) act would direct all school superintendents to review discipline data for their school district, to decide whether there is an ~~unequal~~ a disparate impact on students based on race, ethnicity, or disability status, ~~and to respond to any disparity.~~

Reword b) ii) The Employment Committee and/or RIPIN should [c]onduct workshops on accommodating college students with language-based learning disabilities.

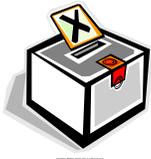
Reword b) iii) The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education should initiate a 5-year look-back study ~~adopt~~ an accommodation standard for elementary and secondary school students with chemical sensitivities or electro-magnetic field sensitivities.

From the Community supports Section

Reword a) iv) The Department of Environmental Management should purchase additional beach/surf-wheelchairs at state ~~public~~ beaches;

Reword a) xi) The Department of Transportation should:

- 1) Require an assessment of the safety of pedestrians with disability before the installation of curb cuts, signage; and crosswalks (including audible signaling); and
- 2) Require pedestrian crossing signs alerting to motorists when crosswalks are on the downslope of a hill.



	<p><i>From the Transportation Section</i></p> <p>Reword a) ix) Accessible transit service to major events, such as Bristol 4th of July Parade, Chinese Dragon Boat Races & Taiwan Day Festival, Jazz Fest Newport, Newport Folk Festival, Wickford Art, Charlestown Seafood Festival, and other high attendance events.</p> <p>Motion moved by LW, seconded by RC, passed unanimously</p>
	<p><i>5:45 Adoption of the 2015 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities Report, Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary</i></p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To adopt the 2015 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families Report.</p> <p>Discussion: The Legislation Committee recommends adopting the 2015 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities and their Families Report.</p>
	<p>See attached draft report</p>
	<p>MOTION: To adopt the 2015 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities Report as revised to incorporate the changes to the 2016 Package of Legislative & Administrative Initiatives above.</p> <p>Motion moved by AP, seconded by LW, passed unanimously</p>
	<p><i>6:00 Review and Comment on proposed amendments to the RI Executive Office of Health and Human Services Rules and Regulations Section 1360 Transportation Services</i></p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To review recently filed draft regulations, determine the potential impact on people with disabilities, and adopt impact statements</p>
	<p>The Legislation Committee has reviewed the proposed regulation. The Committee recommends the Commission oppose the regulation unless amended to address the following:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In general - . Revise to clarify which provisions apply to riders who are nether elderly nor TANF recipients. The younger Medicaid recipients who have disabilities. 1360.01. Covered Services Section D) Nursing Facility Residents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does “nursing facility” include residents of assistive living and other licensed residential facilities? 1360.02. Transportation Requests Section A) Door-to-Door <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise to create an exception for elders/disabled/blind who live alone, have no companion, and are unable to navigate a large or multi store medical building to locate the correct provider. 1360.02. Transportation Requests Section B) Passenger Cancellations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise to create an exception when the health practitioner cancels the appointment and beneficiary notifies the transportation broker as soon as possible.

¹⁷ H 5383 <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText15/HouseText15/H5383.pdf> and S 299 SUB A <http://webserver.rilin.state.ri.us/BillText/BillText15/SenateText15/S0299A.pdf>

	<p>1360.02. Transportation Requests Section D) Physician's / Clinician's Attestation and/or Documentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this only apply to out-of-state or not closest provider? • Where is the attestation/document sent if not to EOHHS? • Include the time-frame for submitting the documents (# days prior to appointment date). • Include a time frame for the Transportation Broker' review process. <p>1360.06. Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program - paragraph beginning "As a condition of eligibility for transportation services participants must provide the information noted below to the transportation broker. This may include, but not limited to:"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore passport and add RIde ID Card (since similar documentation is needed for the paratransit service). <p>1360.07. Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program - Specific Services. Special Medicals (Priority 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restore the sentence "{The transportation broker} will insure that clients will spend the least amount of time reasonably possible in transport." Dialysis or chemotherapy is very draining, lengthy trips, especially the return trip must be as short as possible, to avoid expense medical complication. <p>1360.07. Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program - Specific Services. INSIGHT (Priority 4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why age 65, everywhere else uses 60 years of age? <p>1360.07. Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program - Specific Services. Senior Nutrition Transportation (Priority 5)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What about the current non-elders who live in senior housing and travel with elderly residents to meals site? <p>1360.08. Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program Service Provision Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise to create an exception for elders/disabled/blind who live alone, have no companion, and are unable to navigate a large or multi store medical building to locate the correct provider. <p>1360.10. Complaint Process for Medicaid Beneficiaries and Persons Using the Non-Medicaid Elderly Transportation Program and TANF Recipients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appeal should not be back to the same transportation broker whose earlier decision is being appealed. Add a time-frame for reviewing and ruling on the appeal.
	<p>MOTION: <i>To oppose if not amended</i> on the proposed amendments to the RI Executive Office of Health and Human Services Rules and Regulations Section 1360 Transportation Services. The regulation needs to be revised to incorporate the Legislation Committee's recommendations, above.</p> <p>Motion moved by AS, seconded by JR, passed unanimously</p>
<p>Status Reports:</p>	
	<p>6:10 Committee & Staff Reports</p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To brief the commission on activities and accomplishments since the last meeting</p>



Commission Budget, Operations & Executive Committee, Timothy Flynn

The Executive Committee has not met since the September Annual Meeting. If the Budget Office releases its' FY 2016 & 2017 Budget recommendations prior to the meeting, they will be distributed prior to or at the meeting.

Accounts	Prior Years Median	FY 2016 Working	FY 2016 CSL	Budget's 2016	difference	FY 2017 CSL	Budget's 2017	difference
Commission Operations	404,640	362,645	365,567	365,558	(9)	367,033	367,028	(5)
M. Brennan Fellowship	18,101	14,718	14,718	14,718	0	14,718	14,718	0
60th Anniversary						22,043	-	(22,043)
Disability Business Enterprise	36,337	5,116	2,193	2,202	9	4,994	4,999	5
HAVA Grant	112,253	8,125	21,181	21,181	0	10,297	10,297	0
Tech Assist	18,416	10,009	10,103	10,103	0	10,505	10,505	0
NE ADA Grant	61,745	27,334	23,497	22,787	(710)	34,780	33,621	(1,159)
Grand Total All Accounts	560,715	427,946	437,259	436,549	(710)	464,370	441,168	(23,202)
Categories								
Salary / Benefits	380,566	375,958	375,448	374,738	(710)	383,573	382,414	(1,159)
Profession-al Services	128,625	8,665	9,428	9,428	0	10,501	10,501	0
Operating Supplies and Expenses	80,270	24,925	28,985	28,985	0	25,140	25,140	0
Assistance and Grants	48,585	18,398	23,398	23,398	0	23,113	23,113	0
Operating Transfers	6,966	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Purchases and Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grand Total All Categories	645,012	427,946	437,259	436,549	(710)	442,327	441,168	(1,159)



MOTION: To accept the Budget Office's FY 2016 Revised and FY 2017 Budget Recommendations.
Motion moved by RC, seconded by AS, passed unanimously



Accessibility Committee, Gary Witman, Chair
It met on October 26, 2015, re-elected Harvey Salvas as the Vice Chair; viewed US Access Board's Disability Training Animation videos; received an update from the RI Division of Capital Assets Management and Maintenance on the program of the ADA Renovation Projects; and an update from staff on recent complaints, investigations, projects and plan reviews.



Disability Business Enterprises Committee, Andrew Argenbright, Chair
Has not met since the September Annual Meeting.



Election Assistance Committee, Rory Carmody, Chair
Executive Secretary is participating, as an advisor, to the Secretary of State's Election Division/State Board of Elections' Voting Equipment Purchasing Review Team.



Employment Committee, Sarah Everhart Skeels, Chair
The October 22, 2015 "A Better Bottom Line" Conference at AMICA Insurance was a success:

- Barbara Morse Silvia of NBC 10 was the master of ceremonies. NBC 10 aired an interview of two workers with disabilities that evening;
- The Governor spoke (copy of her remarks are available);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jillian Jagling, Attorney with Pannone Lopes Devereaux & West presented a brief overview of employers and employees obligations and rights; • Dockside Scoops/Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream Events Manager Jessica Harney Griffin and Adrienne Toracina, employee with a disability described the ease of accommodating an employee with a disability; • Providence Veterans Affairs Regional Office's Human Resource Specialist Kathy Schreck and Jaamal Bullock, VA Benefit Rating Specialist described minor accommodations for Jaamal; • RI Public Transit Authority's Ride Manager and Will Potter Customer Service/Operations Manager described his accommodations; and • Richard James, Attorney talked about his efforts as a small businessperson with disabilities.
	<p>Hearing Board, Judith Drew, Chair Has not met since the September Annual Meeting.</p>
	<p>Legislation Committee, Linda Ward, Chair Three Public Forum testimony-working groups reviewed the testimony from the public forums, submitted their recommendations to the Legislation Committee in October. The Committee recommended the adoption of 2016 Legislative, Administrative Initiatives, and Public Forum Report. Jack Ringland was re-elected Vice Chairperson.</p>
	<p>Coordinating Committee on Disability Rights, Timothy Flynn, Chair Has not met since the September Annual Meeting.</p>
	<p>MOTION: To accept all committee reports as presented Motion moved by CG, seconded by JR, passed unanimously</p>
	<p>6:30 Adjournment, Tim Flynn, Chair MOTION: To adjourn at 6:40 PM Motion moved by CG, seconded by LW, passed unanimously</p>