



**Governor's Commission on Disabilities
Legislation Committee**

Monday, Nov. 3, 2014 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM

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Cranston, RI 02920-3049

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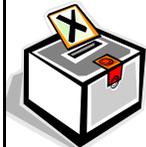
Attendees: Linda Ward (Chair.); Jack Ringland (Vice Chair.); Rosemary C. Carmody; Regina Connor; Timothy Flynn; Casey Gartland; Arthur M. Plitt; Meredith Sheehan; Angelina Stabile;
Absentees: Heather Daglieri; Linda Deschenes; Elaina Goldstein; Kathleen Heren; William R. Inlow; Paula Parker; Msgr. Gerard O. Sabourin; & Dawn Wardyga

Guests: Barbara Henry
Staff: Bob Cooper



3:00 Call to Order and Acceptance of the Minutes, Linda Ward, Chair

Chair calls the meeting to order at 3:06 PM
Introductions of Commissioners and guests



MOTION: To accept the minutes of the previous meeting as presented
Motion moved by TF, seconded by JR, **passed unanimously**

Action Items:



3:05 2015 Legislative Package, Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary

Purpose/Goal: To review the status of the Commission's 2014 Legislative Package and recommend items to be retained for 2015

Outcome	2014 Legislative Priorities	Retain for 2015?
Yes	1) Transportation to Employment, job training, education, health care, etc.	YES
Yes	a) Maintain the existing RIPTA/RIde service areas;	
No	b) Adequate funding/new & stable funding source;	
No	c) Expand the RIPTA/RIde service areas/hours beyond the existing service/hours; and	
No	d) Require RIPTA to establish a sliding scale RIde fare.	
No	2) Global Medicaid Consumer Choice Waiver; making sure the 2008 level of services stay in place for persons with severe disabilities:	YES
No	a) Restore the 2008 Katie Beckett and children with autism spectrum disorders eligibility rules;	
No	b) Restore the right to medically necessary brand name drugs without requiring two generic failures before allowing brand name;	
No	c) Improve services for adults with autism spectrum disorders;	
Yes	d) Restore multiple behavioral healthcare service delivery models;	
Just	e) Restore disability service funding;	

Outcome	2014 Legislative Priorities	Retain for 2015?
No	f) Post-Global Medicaid Consumer Choice Waiver Transition Plan; and	
No	g) Clarify eligibility for Medicaid/Sherlock services.	
Yes	3) Housing Supports and other services for people with behavioral health concerns: a) Restore the Neighborhood Opportunities Program funding;	Yes
No	b) Create a supportive housing program; and	
No	c) Expansion of Affordable Housing - require at least 2 additional affordable housing units for cities and towns that have not met the affordable housing goals.	
No	4) Accessibility to Services: a) Provide interpreter services for ancillary healthcare programs or supports (including peer supports); and	Follow CDHH lead
No	b) Provide closed captions of all Capitol Television programming.	
No	5) Employment a) Improve school to adult transitional to adult services / employment / post-secondary education; and	YES
Yes	b) Maintain appropriate employment options.	
No	6) Direct the Legislation Committee to monitor progress on requiring Health Insurance Plans to cover specialty drug (Tier 4 Drug Category) in Tier 3, to determine impact of Affordable Care Act.	Monitor
On hold	7) Shift to the Employment Committee the Commission's efforts on Refocusing State and Municipal Disability Pension Systems to become Reemployment Systems.	



MOTION: To recommend the retention from the 2014 Legislative Package the following items: Transportation, Medicaid, Housing Supports, & Employment
Motion moved by AS, seconded by JR, passed unanimously

3:30 Review of the 2014 Public Forums on the Concerns of People with Disabilities Testimony



Purpose/Goal: To identify common concerns raised at the public forum and recommend action for the Commission to act upon in 2015

Accessibility Concerns

Concern: Fisherman's Memorial Park - rest rooms, have one step
Recommendation: DEM should renovate the rest rooms at Fisherman's Memorial Park - Commission's Staff will follow-up
Page 16

Concern: Court personnel at Family Court in Providence refused to provide assistance in completing documents
Recommendation: Courts should conduct training annually on accommodating the public - Commission's Staff has spoken to the Court's ADA Coordinator who is addressing the concern
Page 31

Concern: Newport has: unsafe crosswalks; no audible traffic signals; City Council

meetings held in inaccessible room; Valley Road DHS Office does not have automatic door openers
 Recommendation: City should move the city council meetings, US Dept. of Justice & Newport have a signed agreement
 GCD will inspect the DHS office on Valley Road
 Page 36

Concern: No accessible housing for people with breathing disabilities
 Recommendation: RI Housing and the Housing Resource Commission should create accessible housing for people with environmental disabilities
 Page 38

Concern: Parking in the van access aisles, disability parking blocked by construction, repair vehicles or police cars
 Recommendation: DMV should distribute flyer on the use of disability parking spaces, to all drivers.
 Cities and towns should utilize the enhanced disability parking enforcement program.
 Pages 17, 48, 72

Concern: East Providence Boys & Girls Club- rest rooms up or down a flight of stairs
 Recommendation: Commission's staff will inspect the EP Boys and Girls Club
 Page 48

Concern: Sidewalks with no curb cuts, broken pavement, or very narrow in Providence, Zambarano Hospital and Newport
 Recommendation: Public Works should install curb cuts whenever resurfacing, or micro planning
 Pages 6, 7, 9, 34, 48, 53
 Other topics:
 Voting · 49

Education/Employment Concerns

Concern: Employment Discrimination
 Office of Rehabilitation Services already followed up & addressed
 Page 7

Concern: Vocational rehabilitation access/re-entry
 Office of Rehabilitation Services already followed up & addressed
 Page 8

Concern: Access to preferred school
 Recommendation: Committee feels it is unique and should be tabled
 Page 8

Concern: Expanding Income limits
 Recommendation: The Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals and the Department of Human Services should do public outreach for the Sherlock Plan & Income Disregard

	<p>Page 12</p> <p><u>Concern: Day Programs for Adults with Developmental Disabilities</u> Recommendation: Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals social workers should follow up with the individual. Page 21</p> <p><u>Concern: Employment Support for Adults with Developmental Disabilities</u> Recommendation: Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals & Office of Rehabilitation Services should continue to work together to close the gap between short term and long term funding. Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals already showing approval for additional funding for employment. Page 26</p> <p><u>Concern: Communication between departments/streamlining paperwork</u> Recommendation: Governor’s Commission on Disabilities should again submit legislation for peer navigators that assist people in finding out what is available to them in terms of services. Page 27</p> <p><u>Concern: Employment issue</u> Office of Rehabilitation Services already followed up & addressed Page 32</p> <p><u>Concern: Employment for Adults with Developmental Disabilities</u> Recommendation: Education about Employment First! Page 37</p> <p><u>Concern: Special Education</u> Recommendation: RI Department of Education (Diane Lavallee) should follow up with the individual. Page 61</p> <p><u>Concern: Office of Rehabilitation Services employment plan</u> Office of Rehabilitation Services already followed up & addressed Page 69</p> <p>Other topics: Accommodations · 25 College Loan · 8 Job Coach · 24</p>
	<p>Healthcare Concerns</p> <p><u>Concern: Katie Beckett Services</u> Recommendation: Contact School Counselors Page 62</p> <p><u>Concern: Community Resources</u> Recommendation: Contact NRI</p>

Page 63

Concern: Accessibility

Recommendation: Contact United Cerebral Palsy

Page 22

Concern: Gluten Free Coverage

Recommendation: Recontact current insurer

Page 10

Concern: Staffing shortages

Long Term Care Ombudsperson has met with the hospital

Pages 10 & 28

Concern: Sidewalks dangerous

Long Term Care Ombudsperson has called the hospital and not received a reply yet.

Page 10

Concern: Treadmill broken

Long Term Care Ombudsperson has spoken to administrator regarding replacement

Page 10

Concerns: Access to pediatric care

Recommendation: Contact case worker

Page 30

Concern: Mental Health Funding / Parity

Recommendation: Contact Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

Page 8, 22, 40

Concern: Demential Care

Recommendation: Compile addition information/ study of demential care

Page 23

Concern: Cost of care - medications

Recommendation: Keep contacting social worker

Page 18

Concern: Understanding benefits

Recommendation - none

Page 28

Other topics:

Affordable 17, 26, 27, 66

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder · 14

Case Management · 26, 66

	<p>Durable Medical Equipment · 28 Insurance · 19, 67, 69 Long Term Care · 8, 9, 11, 60, 67 Posttraumatic Stress Disorder · 13 Supports Intensity Scale · 20</p>
	<p>Independent Living Concerns</p> <p><u>Concern Adaptive Housing</u> Recommendations: Maintain home modification funding at its current level, outreach to the state’s Career and Technical Centers’ carpentry, construction programs to undertake home modifications Pages 6, 57</p> <p><u>Concern: Affordable Housing</u> Recommendation: Increase the percentage of affordable housing that must be accessible to 10%, from Federal Fair Housing requirements of 4%. Pages 5, 26, 33</p> <p><u>Concern: Lack of Transition Planning, youth to adult, adult with family support to post-sibling/parent services, etc.</u> Recommendation: Create/fund peer navigators to assist individuals and families to prepare for transition to next phase of life. Pages 6, 10, 24, 60, 64</p> <p><u>Concern: Co-payments</u> Recommendation: Clear, understandable and transparent explanations on how co-pays are determined. Page 17</p> <p><u>Concern: Developmental Disabilities Funding</u> Recommendation: Maintain support service funding for all persons with disabilities Pages 14, 39, 66</p> <p><u>Concern: The interaction between Police persons with Autism, behavior health and other disabilities.</u> Recommendation: Increased training for current and new police officers. Restoration of funding for behavioral health interventions, publicize the 800 # for crisis intervention services (by trained professionals to assist police to descolate a standoff. Page 54</p> <p><u>Concern: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - Gluten-free food</u> Recommendation: Cost adjustment for doctor prescribed special diets. Pages 26, 67, 68</p>

	<p>Transportation Concerns</p> <p><u>Concern: LogistiCare</u> Recommendation: Write a letter to LogistiCare and ask for the following information. Based on the information provided by LogistiCare some form of legislation can be written. What accountability does RIPTA/RIDE have if LogistiCare is a subcontractor? Did LogistiCare come to the state as a result of legislation? Write letter to LogistiCare asking LogistiCare about there on time performance. Accountability for LogistiCare for providing on time transportation. Is HIPAA violated when LogistiCare calls the clients medicle provider and reschedules appointments without the clients knowledge or consent. Contact the Veterans Administration in Rhode Island with recommendations for clarification of receiving transportation for disabled veterans medicle or otherwise. Pages 5, 28, 33, 35, 42</p> <p><u>Concern: RIPTA/RIDE</u> Recommendation: That there be a legislative mandated review of the 3 quarter mile and the feesability of extending it. Also the Ride time window to pick up clients. Form a state commission to look at how effective transportation is for people with disabilities and this commission would make recommendations to the governor and the legislature for improving transportation for people with disabilities. Pages: Rlde · 29, 43, 45, 46, 52 & RIPTA bus · 7, 40, 45, 50, 53, 55 Other topics: Organ Donor ID · 24 Recreation · 10</p>
	<p>MOTION: To recommend the following items be included in the Commission’s 2015 Legislative Package:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) State Departments need to create user friendly website; 2) Citizens need a single point of entry for all services; Web portal (Benefits Bank) with Peer Navigators and/or Benefits Specialists to assist; 3) Maintain Home Modification \$ (staff to follow-up did PARI’s \$\$ go to OSCIL? check Lori DeOrio ORS); 4) Transportation Study Commission <p>Motion moved by AS, seconded by RCo, passed unanimously</p>
	<p><i>4:25 Agenda for the Next Meeting, Linda Ward</i></p> <p>Purpose/Goal: To set the agenda for the next meeting.</p> <p>Discussion: The Legislation Committee meetings in 2014 will be on the 1st Monday 3 - 4:30 PM: 12/08/14</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Drafting Legislation for 2015



4:30 Adjournment, Linda Ward

Potential MOTION: To adjourn at 4:17 PM

Motion moved by TF, seconded by CG, passed unanimously