

THE DISABILITY COALITION
Advocating for People with Disabilities of All Types

DISABILITY ISSUES IN THE 2023 LEGISLATURE
STATUS REPORT #4
February 13, 2023

By Jim Jackson and Ellen Pinnes

(A list of abbreviations, including legislative committees, is included at the end of this report.)

Committee hearings: Mon. Feb. 13:

HHHC: HB 51 Prescription drug affordability board

SEC: SB 283 Suspension/expulsion of young children

SHPAC: SB 261 ALS support

Tues. Feb. 14: HLVMC: HB 186 Disabled veteran tax exemption

Wed. Feb. 15: HEC: HB 112 Public school wellness rooms

Disability Rights Awareness Day at the Roundhouse. Last Wednesday was the first Disability Rights Awareness Day (DRAD) at the Roundhouse in three years, after the building was closed to the public for the 2021 session and group activities were not allowed in 2022 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Members of the disability community – including individuals with disabilities, family members, advocates, and service providers – came to the Capitol to meet with legislators, watch the Legislature in action, and mingle with other community members from around the state. The scheduled keynote speaker for the mid-day Rotunda gathering, Lieutenant Governor Howie Morales, was delayed in Silver City, but Attorney General Raúl Torrez stepped in to address the crowd and announce his plans for a new civil rights division in the Attorney General’s office. He was followed by a distinguished roster of legislators, including Representatives Liz Thomson and Patricia Roybal Caballero from Albuquerque, Joanne Ferrary from Las Cruces, Kathleen Cates from Rio Rancho, Tara Jaramillo from Socorro, and John Block from Alamogordo. The event closed with remarks from both Lieutenant Governor Morales and Senator Siah Correa Hemphill, who raced to the Roundhouse from the airport and arrived in time to speak to the group before heading down to the Senate floor. The crowd’s enthusiasm indicated that this year’s DRAD Roundhouse gathering was a success.

Expulsions from pre-school? You might think that a proposal to prohibit young kids from being expelled from childcare, preschool or first and second grade wouldn’t be particularly controversial. But add in a limitation on suspensions of such children to three days instead of the 10 days currently allowed by law and a requirement to track and report all such incidents to the state, and watch the pushback emerge. Senator Harold Pope and his expert, ECECD Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky, got lots of support but also encountered a surprising amount of resistance as they presented SB 283 to the Senate Education Committee this past Friday. There were questions about the administrative burden



of record-keeping and reporting and comments about retaining options to keep children safe. SEC members had enough questions and comments on the bill that they ran out of time; they're scheduled to resume hearing SB 283 today.

Bill introduction deadline coming up this week. The deadline for introducing most bills is the half-way point of the session, which this year is Thursday, February 16. As of last Friday, a total of 899 measures had been introduced, including 780 bills along with memorials and resolutions. A flurry of introductions is expected this week as legislators rush to get their remaining bills in before the deadline. Memorials can be introduced at any time.

Bills and Memorials Introduced in the 2023 Session

This list is grouped by specific disability or subject matter and shows the bill number, sponsor, a description of the bill, committee assignments, and action taken on the bill or memorial.

State Budget

HB 2 General Appropriation Act. Rep. Nathan Small. This is the budget bill that funds most of state government. The House Appropriations and Finance Committee is expected to adopt a recommended budget this week for presentation to the full House for action. In next week's Status Report, we'll note the funding levels set for agencies serving persons with disabilities. HAFC.

Behavioral Health

For bills addressing housing for persons with behavioral health issues, see the Housing section below.

HB 104 Funding for supervision of behavioral health professionals in training. Rep. Anthony Allison. Appropriates \$3.1 million to HSD to provide funding to provider agencies to cover the cost of supervising individuals who are on a path to licensure as behavioral health professionals. A significant number of supervised clinical hours are required for licensure but no funding is currently available to cover the additional cost of such supervision. Similar but not identical to SB 262, below. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.

HB 112 Wellness rooms in public schools. Rep. Pamela Herndon. Appropriates \$5 million to fund a 6-year pilot program to show that public school wellness rooms can positively affect student behavioral health. HEC/HAFC. *Scheduled for hearing in HEC on Wednesday, Feb. 15.*

HB 260 Expanding access to behavioral health services. Rep. Dayan Hochman-Vigil. Same as SB 273, below. HHHC/HAFC.

HB 341 Court-ordered BH treatment. Rep. Bill Rehm. Authorizes courts hearing criminal cases to refer defendants for a behavioral health examination. If this evaluation recommends that the person receive behavioral health treatment, the court is required to order the person to receive such treatment while the criminal case is pending or throughout the person's period of probation. HHHC/HJC.

HB 373 Crisis triage centers. Rep. Doreen Gallegos. Same as SB 310, below. HHHC/HJC.

SB 117 Prescribing psychologists. Sen. Bill Soules. Repeals existing law allowing certain psychologists to prescribe behavioral health medications and replaces it with a new and broader structure allowing psychologists to prescribe such medications through a program overseen by the NM Medical Board. Substitute version passed SHPAC, pending in SJC.

SB 148 Community college peer counseling program. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Provides \$100,000 to the Higher Education Department to study the feasibility of creating/expanding certification programs in community colleges for peer counseling and other non-clinical support services. Passed SEC, pending in SFC.

SB 149 Study grad school tuition waivers. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Appropriates \$100,000 to the Higher Education Department to study the cost and feasibility of providing free tuition for graduate degrees for persons who would become behavioral health providers in New Mexico. Passed SEC, pending in SFC.

SB 262 Funding for supervision of behavioral health professionals in training. Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill. Appropriates \$3.1 million to HSD to provide funding to provider agencies to cover the cost of supervising individuals who are on a path to licensure as independent behavioral health professionals. Similar but not identical to HB 104, above. SHPAC/SFC.

SB 273 Expanding access to behavioral health services. Sen. Martin Hickey. Requires health insurance policies to cover all behavioral health services (including family and marriage counseling) that are required under “generally recognized standards of care” as set by national professional associations for psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and others, or by relevant federal agencies. It also prohibits insurance companies from imposing quantitative or non-quantitative limitations on behavioral health coverage (such as co-pays, prior authorization, etc) that are stricter than limitations on medical/surgical treatments or procedures. These provisions are expected to significantly expand access to behavioral health services. STBTC/SFC.

SB 310 Crisis triage centers. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Defines crisis triage centers in law (as licensed facilities providing residential or non-residential stabilization of a behavioral health crisis) and authorizes those centers to accept voluntary or involuntary admissions. These provisions would allow police officers to take individuals to the centers, rather than to an emergency room or jail, for mental status assessments. The bill also loosens a requirement in existing law that people be treated at the closest suitable treatment facility, providing instead that treatment be provided at a facility “close to” the individual’s residence. Same as HB 373, above. SHPAC/SJC.

SB 379 Curry County behavioral health facility. Sen. Pat Woods. Appropriates \$39 million, to be spent over the next two years, to design, construct and equip a behavioral health facility in Curry County. SHPAC/SFC.

SB 399 Limiting solitary confinement. Sen. Antonio Maestas. Current law generally prohibits persons with mental illness from being placed in solitary confinement (“restricted housing”) in jails and prisons. This bill would further protect others from such treatment, which is so detrimental to mental health, by prohibiting this practice for anyone under 21 or over 55 (the existing limit is only for persons under age 18), extending coverage not only through pregnancy but for eight weeks post-partum, and adding protection for “vulnerable populations” including LGBTQ individuals. Solitary confinement for any prison inmate would be limited to 15 days at a time and a total of 90 days per year, and jails could not use it in the first three days of incarceration unless a suicide screening finds the person isn’t likely to engage in self-harm. SHPAC/SJC

Brain Injury

HB 139 Eliminate court fees. Rep. Micaela Cadena. This bill would eliminate most fees that are assessed against persons convicted of crimes, including the \$5 fee from traffic tickets that goes to the Brain Injury Services Fund. (The bill would not affect fines imposed for the underlying offense.) The change would not take effect until July 2024 in order to provide enough time to adjust the state budget to provide other funding to replace the lost revenue. Passed HJC, pending in HAFC.

SM 30 Brain injury study. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Requests that GCD study the feasibility of requiring health insurance coverage for the full range of services needed by persons with brain injuries, and establishing a registry to track the incidence of brain injury and the effectiveness of treatments. The results of the study are to be reported to LHHS and LFC by November 1. No funding is provided for the study. SRC/SHPAC.

Civil Rights

HB 207 Human Rights Act Amendments. Rep. Kristina Ortez. Extends the anti-discrimination

provisions of the state Human Rights Act, which currently applies to private businesses and the state as a whole, to any public body funded by a governmental entity, including school districts, and expands definitions to improve protections for the LGBTQ community. The bill deletes outdated references in the current statute to “handicap” and replaces them with “disability”. Passed HGEIC, pending in HJC.

Community Living and Services

HB 40 MVD disability registry. Rep. Liz Thomson. Allows but does not require individuals to note, in conjunction with their car registration, that they or a regular passenger in their vehicle have a disability that might affect their ability to communicate. Law enforcement officers would be required, when practicable, to consult the registry prior to interacting with a motorist and to take appropriate steps when attempting to communicate with a driver or passenger who is on the registry. Passed HHHC and HJC, awaiting House vote.

HB 186 Disabled veterans tax exemption. Rep. Alan Martinez. Updates and simplifies language regarding eligibility for a property tax exemption for disabled veterans or surviving spouses. HLVMC/HTRC. *Scheduled for hearing in HLVMC on Tuesday, Feb. 14.*

HB 220 GRT exemption for home modifications. Rep. Kathleen Cates. Under this bill, agencies or companies that provide home modifications for accessibility funded by Medicaid would not have to pay gross receipts tax on payments they receive for such services. Passed HHHC, pending in HTRC

HB 288 Closed captioning act. Rep. Cynthia Borrego. Requires any public accommodation (such as hotels, restaurants, retail stores, health care facilities, etc.) that has a television on in a public area to activate closed captioning on the TV, with a few minor exceptions. The bill authorizes the Attorney General to enforce the requirement, and authorizes a fine for non-compliance up to \$250 for a first offense and \$500 for subsequent offenses. HHHC/HJC.

HB 290 ALS funding. Rep. Art De La Cruz. Appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Health to support individuals living with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) and their caregivers. Same as SB 261, below. HHHC/HAFC.

HB 308 Child adoption tax credit. Rep. Joshua Hernandez. Changes current special needs child adoption tax credit to provide a credit for any adopted child and raises the amount of the credit from \$1,000/year to \$7,000/year for a special needs child and \$5,000 for any other child. Also requires TRD to report on the number of people claiming the credit, the cost of the credit, and other factors, to allow evaluation of the credit program. HHHC/HTRC.

HJR 5 Expanding eligibility for property tax exemptions for disabled veterans. Rep. Eliseo Alcon. The current constitutional provision gives an exemption from property tax for the primary residence of a veteran who has a 100% service-connected disability and for the surviving spouse of a deceased veteran. This proposed constitutional amendment would provide this exemption to veterans with less than a 100% disability, with the percentage of tax exemption equal to the percentage of the veteran’s disability. Passed HLVMC, heard and temporarily tabled in HTRC.

SB 11 Paid family and medical leave. Sen. Mimi Stewart. Creates a paid family/medical leave benefit for workers in New Mexico. Beginning in 2026, employees could receive payments in lieu of wages for up to 12 weeks of leave in a year, when such approved leave is taken in connection with the employee’s illness, or for the purpose of caring for an ill family member, bonding with a newborn child, adopted child or new foster child, or protecting the employee or family member from domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault or abuse. The leave program would be financed by assessments from employees and employers, though the bill also includes an appropriation of \$36.5 million for initial implementation of the program. Passed STBTC, pending in SFC.

SB 98 Contract adjustments for certain cost increases. Sen. Crystal Diamond. Under this bill, a state contract for services would have to include a provision that if the state raises the minimum wage or mandates a new employee benefit, the contractor’s reimbursement would have to go up enough to cover the cost of the higher wage or new benefit and any employee of the contractor who is paid the

minimum wage would have to receive the increase. The bill is intended to benefit childcare workers, direct support workers and others who typically work for relatively low wages. Passed STBTC, pending in SJC.

SB 261 ALS funding. Sen. Antonio Maestas. Same as HB 290, above. SHPAC/SFC. *Scheduled for hearing in SHPAC on Monday, Feb. 13.*

SB 277 Increasing tax credit for special needs adoptions. Sen. David Gallegos. Increases the tax credit for adoption of a special needs child from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year and requires TRD to report on the number of people claiming the credit, the cost of the credit, and other factors, to allow evaluation of the credit program. STBTC/SFC.

SB 300 Disabled veteran property tax. Sen. Harold Pope. Clarifies that if a disabled veteran or surviving spouse buys and moves into a new house during a year, either the “old” home or the new home can be considered the residence for that tax year. The bill also provides that if the title to the home is in a trust, it can still be treated as tax-exempt if it is the residence of the veteran or surviving spouse. STBTC/SJC.

SB 345 Kiki Saavedra Senior Dignity Fund investments. Sen. Pete Campos. The Kiki Saavedra fund can support a wide variety of services to seniors and adults with disabilities. This bill directs the State Investment Officer to periodically invest state money into this fund, and report annually on such investments. The bill is meant to work in conjunction with SB 346, below, which is intended to make this Fund into an endowment fund. STBTC/SFC.

SB 346 Kiki Saavedra Senior Dignity Fund appropriation. Sen. Pete Campos. Appropriates \$40 million for the Fund. The intent is to convert this to an endowment fund that would generate income or growth in value that could be used to support activities consistent with the fund’s purpose without relying on annual appropriations. SHPAC/SFC.

Developmental Disabilities Services

HB 41 DD Provider rate increases. Rep. Liz Thomson. Appropriates \$7.65 million to DoH to raise provider reimbursement rates, in addition to the \$10.2 million for rate increases being requested by DoH. Passed HHHC, pending in HAFC.

HB 355 DD transitional programs. Rep. Liz Thomson. Appropriates \$275,000 to DDS to contract for “workforce development services” to develop pathways and support systems for students with developmental disabilities with IEPs who are graduating from high school. HAFC.

HM 5 Dual diagnosis task force. Rep. Liz Thomson. Requests that DoH convene a task force to study the feasibility of requiring all mental health and developmental disabilities providers to be trained in working with persons with developmental disabilities who also have mental health issues. HHHC.

SB 203 DD cost study and higher pay for direct support professionals. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Requires DOH to conduct a cost study every two years for all services provided through the DD program. The study would include recommended reimbursement rates that take into account current costs, projected cost increases due to factors such as inflation, and the additional costs that would be incurred if direct support professionals are paid at least 150% of the current state minimum wage. Also requires agencies employing such professionals to report annually on the number and demographic profile of employees, and requires DoH to issue a summary statewide report on this workforce. Passed SHPAC, pending in SFC.

SB 260 Delete references to “mental retardation”. Sen. Linda Lopez. Deletes all remaining references to “mental retardation” in state law and replaces them with “developmental or intellectual disability”. SHPAC/SJC.

Education/Special Education

HB 39 Dual-licensed instructional support providers in three-tier system. Rep. Liz Thomson. Adds professionally-licensed school providers such as therapists, social workers and nurses into the three-

tier licensure and salary system currently in place for teachers and school administrators. Passed HEC and HCEDC, pending in HAFC.

HB 127 Educational assistant salary increase. Rep. Susan Herrera. Raises the minimum salary for educational assistants, who are commonly used in special education, from \$12,000 per year (an amount first implemented in the 2004-2005 school year) to \$25,000. The statutory amount is well below the state's current minimum wage. Passed HCEDC and HEC, pending in HAFC.

HB 285 Office of Special Education. Rep. Liz Thomson. Creates the Office of Special Education within PED, to be led by an individual (appointed by the governor) who would report directly to the PED Secretary. The bill gives the Office a variety of responsibilities, including assuring compliance with state and federal laws related to special education, and providing training and policy guidance for those working with students with disabilities, including school boards and school administrators. The Office would be charged with monitoring how school districts spend state and federal funds provided for special education, and would be authorized to "take actions to ensure appropriate spending as needed." The Office would develop an annual plan for special education policies, programs and standards, and provide an annual report to PED, the governor, and the LESC. HEC/HGEIC.

SB 283 Reducing suspensions/expulsions. Sen. Harold Pope. This bill prohibits the expulsion of a child from a childcare center (if subsidized by the state), or from a publicly-funded school if the child is not yet in third grade, unless the child has brought a weapon to school. It similarly prohibits out-of-school suspensions for such children unless the child has willfully caused, attempted or threatened serious bodily injury to another person, in which case the suspension cannot exceed three days. In addition, the bill requires childcare centers and publicly funded schools to maintain and report data concerning the number and demographic profile of children who have been suspended or expelled from school each year. SEC/SJC. An initial hearing on this amended bill was held on Friday and *the discussion is scheduled to continue in SEC on Monday, Feb. 13.*

SB 387 Further limitations on seclusion and restraint. Sen. Linda Lopez. This bill amends current law to prohibit the use of mechanical, chemical or prone restraint, and further narrow existing limitations on the use of other restraints on students. It strengthens and clarifies the duty of schools to report incidents of seclusion and restraint to parents and school administrators, and to consider changes to services or strategies that might prevent or mitigate future incidents. SEC/SJC.

Guardianship, Self-Determination and Protection of Vulnerable Persons

SB 89 Supported decision-making. Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill. Authorizes supported decision-making agreements under New Mexico law, as an alternative to guardianship orders, and appropriates funding to establish a supported decision-making program within the DD Council's Office of Guardianship. Passed SHPAC with amendments to strengthen the DDC's role and increase the appropriation from \$189,000 to \$289,000, pending in SJC with further referral to SFC.

SB 118 Financial exploitation of vulnerable adults – criminal penalty. Sen. Michael Padilla. Makes it a crime for a person to trick, coerce or use undue influence to gain control of the resources or property of an elderly, disabled, or otherwise vulnerable adult. A first offense would be a third-degree felony; further offenses by the same person would be second-degree felonies. Passed SHPAC, pending in SJC with further referral to SFC.

SB 119 Financial exploitation of vulnerable adults – civil remedy. Sen. Katy Duhigg. Allows lawsuits against someone who has financially exploited a vulnerable adult. Passed SHPAC, pending in SJC.

SB 183 Waivers for conservators. Sen. Stuart Ingle. Current law prohibits a conservator from obtaining a release or waiver of liability with respect to property or resources over which they have some authority. This bill would allow for such a waiver if the protected person or another person interested in the estate is represented by independent counsel. Passed SHPAC, pending in SJC.

Health Care

HB 38 Expand rural healthcare provider tax credit. Rep. Miguel Garcia. Adds a number of categories of clinicians, including registered nurses, physical therapists and various types of behavioral health providers, to those eligible for the tax credit available to clinicians practicing in underserved rural areas of the state. Passed HHHC, pending in HTRC.

HB 47 Rural health care project revolving fund. Rep. Marian Matthews. Appropriates \$7.5 million to establish a fund that would provide loans to set up practices providing health care services in underserved rural areas. HHHC/H AFC.

HB 51 Prescription Drug Affordability Board. Rep. Pamelya Herndon. Creates a board to develop strategies to lower the cost of prescription drugs. Members of the board would be appointed by the governor and legislative leadership of both parties; its operations would be funded through assessments on drug manufacturers and distributors and pharmacy benefit managers. HHHC/H AFC. *Scheduled for hearing in HHHC on Monday, Feb. 13.*

HB 53 Insurance coverage of diabetes. Rep. Liz Thomson. Expands and clarifies required insurance coverage of services and equipment for persons with diabetes. The latest version of the bill requires insurance companies to maintain an adequate network of providers of diabetes-related supplies, and to promptly reimburse patients who have to buy their own supplies due to delays or failures in delivering supplies on time from an insurer's supplier. Substitute version passed HHHC, pending in H AFC.

HB 73 Insurance coverage of biomarker testing. Rep. Meredith Dixon. Biomarkers are physical characteristics that can be used to diagnose, monitor or assess the risk of a health condition. The bill requires coverage of analysis of a patient's blood, tissue or other biological specimen to measure biomarkers in order to evaluate normal or disease processes or responses to a therapeutic intervention. Passed HHHC, pending in HCPAC.

HB 75 Insurance coverage of chiropractic services. Rep. Day Hochman-Vigil. Provides that as of Jan. 1, 2024, copays or coinsurance for chiropractic services may be no more than those for primary care services. Passed the House 64-0; SHPAC/STBTC.

HB 131 Insurance coverage of orthotics/prosthetics. Rep. Liz Thomson. Requires insurance policies to cover prosthetics and custom orthotics, including a second prosthetic for physical activities such as running or swimming, as prescribed by a treating provider. Passed HCPAC and HHHC; is now the first item on the calendar for a vote by the full House and is expected to be voted on as early as today.

HB 264 Study Medicaid managed care. Rep. Eleanor Chavez. Appropriates \$250,000 to LCS to contract for an analysis of the fiscal viability of Medicaid managed care and to develop methods to make the managed care system more transparent. HHHC/H AFC.

HB 272 Allow chiropractors to clear student athletes. Rep. Natalie Figueroa. Current law requires student athletes who have sustained a brain injury to be held out of athletic activities for at least 10 days; they can then return to participation if they have no symptoms of a brain injury and have a written release from a healthcare professional. This bill would add chiropractors to the list of healthcare professionals who can provide such a release. HHHC/HGEIC.

HB 293 Study healthcare cost drivers. Rep. Christine Trujillo. Appropriates \$400,000 to LCS to contract for a study of the factors causing increases in healthcare costs, the methods other states and countries have used to control such costs, and the feasibility of applying such methods in New Mexico. Results of the study are to be reported to LHHS and LFC. Same as SB 290, below. HHHC/H AFC.

HB 351 Rural health tax credit eligibility. Rep. Jenifer Jones. Reduces the number of hours a provider must work to qualify for the full credit from 2,080/year (40 hours per week for 52 weeks) to 1,584, and reduces the number for half-credit accordingly. Also changes definition of "rural" to rely on federal designation rather than DoH's. HHHC/HTRC.

SB 71 Non-discrimination in anatomical gifts. Sen. Craig Brandt. This bill would prohibit discrimination in organ transplants based on an individual's disability. A potential recipient's

disability could be taken into account only to the extent that a physician finds it to be medically significant to the transplant based on an individualized evaluation. Passed the Senate 36-0; HHC/HJC.

SB 255 Medicaid mileage reimbursements. Sen. Gay Kernan. Requires HSD to develop and implement mileage reimbursements to entities that travel to patient homes for the purpose of performing environmental modifications or for delivering durable medical equipment. The bill would also require mileage reimbursement for ambulance services. SHPAC/SFC.

SB 290 Study healthcare cost drivers. Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino. Same as HB 293, above. SRC/SFC.

Housing

HB 92 Supported housing and services. Rep. Joanne Ferrary. Appropriates \$859,000 to HSD to start up supported long-term housing programs for persons with serious mental illness in Doña Ana County. Passed HHC, pending in HAF. C.

HB 358 Transitional housing. Rep. Tara Lujan. Same as SB 162, below. HAF. C.

SB 139 Services and housing for homeless individuals. Sen. Nancy Rodriguez. Appropriates \$20 million to HSD to provide behavioral health services, substance abuse treatment, and housing for homeless individuals. Passed SHPAC, pending in SFC.

SB 140 Housing Trust Fund. Sen. Nancy Rodriguez. Appropriates \$48 million to the NM Housing Trust Fund to support development of low-income housing options through the Mortgage Finance Authority. Passed SHPAC, pending in SFC.

SB 162 Transitional housing. Sen. Carrie Hamblen. Appropriates \$1.843 million to HSD to support a program in Dona Ana County providing transitional housing for persons with mental illness or substance abuse disorder. Same as HB 358, above. Passed SHPAC, pending in SFC.

Miscellaneous

HB 366 Additional license plates for disabled veterans. Rep. Joanne Ferrary. Under current law, disabled veterans can get two special license plates without paying a fee; this bill would enable them to get additional plates by paying the standard registration fee. HLVMC/HTRC.

SB 263 LHHS as year-round staffed committee. Sen. Martin Hickey. Provides for a staff director and year-round staff for the Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (similar to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Legislative Education Study Committee). Appropriates \$350,000 for this purpose. SRC/SFC.

SB 284 Special Olympics license plate. Sen. Linda Lopez. Authorizes MVD to issue special license plates celebrating Special Olympics. The special plate would cost \$10 in addition to the standard vehicle registration fee. STBTC/SFC

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 that 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. Due to heightened security measures after several recent drive-by shootings directed at the homes of legislators and other elected officials in Albuquerque, this currently includes only the legislator's email address and their office and phone number in the Capitol during the session.
- From the same page with the picture you can choose a different political body to find out who

else represents you in Santa Fe or in the U.S. Congress.

Now that the session has started, each legislator has an office in the Capitol. 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!

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS REPORT

Legislature and Committees:

HB	House Bill
HAFC	House Appropriations and Finance Committee
HCEDC	House Commerce and Economic Development Committee
HEC	House Education Committee
HHHC	House Health and Human Services Committee
HJC	House Judiciary Committee
HLVMC	House Labor, Veterans, and Military Affairs
HGEIC	House Government, Elections and Indian Affairs Committee
HTRC	House Taxation and Revenue Committee
LCS	Legislative Council Service
LFC	Legislative Finance Committee (interim committee)
LHHS	Legislative Health and Human Services Committee (interim committee)

SB	Senate Bill
SEC	Senate Education Committee
SFC	Senate Finance Committee
SJC	Senate Judiciary Committee
SH PAC	Senate Health and Public Affairs Committee
SRC	Senate Rules Committee
STBTC	Senate Tax, Business and Transportation Committee

State Agencies:

ALTSD	Aging and Long Term Services Department
CDHH	Commission for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Persons
CFB	Commission for the Blind
CYFD	Children, Youth and Families Department
DDC	Developmental Disabilities Council
DDSD	Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (within DoH)
DoH	Department of Health
DVR	Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (within PED)
ECECD	Early Childhood Education and Care Department
GCD	Governor's Commission on Disability
HSD	Human Services Department
MVD	Motor Vehicle Division (within TRD)
PED	Public Education Department
TRD	Taxation and Revenue Department

Other:

ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act
IEP	Individualized education program