

# Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

## 2015 Legislative Summary

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# 2015 Legislative Session Overview

- 81 Days in session
- 1163 bills posted
- 344 bills passed
- 20 bills vetoed
- 324 bills signed

# Project Overview

- ▶ Individual meetings with 90 representatives
- ▶ Monitored 97 Bills
  - 21 of these passed & were signed by the Governor
- ▶ Continued outreach and partnership with other advocates.
- ▶ Attendance at committee meetings and hearings.
- ▶ Production of Fact Sheet with real time updates

# Legislative Highlights

- Intense House interest in all DD issues.
- Continuing inclusivity of language that expresses ‘citizens/people’ with a disability/developmental disability.
- Office of the Governor Proclamation:  
Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month – March 2015\*
- H.C.R. 2029 (House Continuing Resolution) – Persons with Disabilities; Employment Support\*

\* Details follow

# Key Bills

- ▶ **S1440 – ALTCS; Developmental Disabilities; Rates**

Appropriates \$120,000 from the general fund in FY2015–16 to the Dept. to provide DD services for persons whose services were reduced under the current cost-effective study rate as a result of the FY2014–15 legislatively mandated provider rate increases.

- ▶ **S1459 – Use of Restraints and Seclusion Techniques**

Schools are authorized to permit the use of "restraint" or "seclusion" (both defined) techniques on any student if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and less restrictive interventions appear insufficient to mitigate the danger.

# Key Bills

- ▶ **S1461 – Schools; Reading Assistance; Dyslexic Pupils**

School boards are permitted to promote a student from the 3rd grade whose reading falls far below the 3rd grade level if the student has been identified with dyslexia and received at least 10 hours of intensive reading intervention.

- ▶ **H2102 – Children: Chronic Illness; Physical Disability**

The AHCCCS Administration is required to establish a children’s rehabilitative services program for “children who have a chronic illness or physical disability”.

- ▶ **H2373 – AHCCCS: Orthotics**

The list of medically necessary health and medical services that AHCCCS contractors are required to provide is expanded to include orthotics ordered by a physician or primary care practitioner if specified conditions are met.

# Additional Outcomes

## Office of the Governor Proclamation: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month – March 2015

- ▶ This proclamation stands as a permanent recognition during this Legislative Session of the scope of the impact nationally, as well as locally in Arizona regarding the numbers of citizens with developmental disabilities;
- ▶ it further states that these citizens and their families are striving for personal success through education, rewarding work, meaningful relationships as well as strong community ties through inclusion and independence.

# Additional Outcomes

## H.C.R. 2029 (House Continuing Resolution) – Persons with Disabilities; Employment Support

- ▶ This resolution was passed and expresses the State Legislature's support for the employment of persons with disabilities by businesses in our state and it encourages businesses in this state to hire persons with disabilities. Many individual Legislators either served as the Prime sponsor for this HCR or as a co-sponsor, therefore supporting this outreach to all Arizona businesses for long term employment for citizens with developmental disabilities. The Planning Council's work in the program area of '*Untapped Arizona*' includes active engagement in collaborative work with all Arizona businesses to implement the content of this resolution on a daily basis throughout our state.

# Demographic Data

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