

Federal News:

President Releases FY 2020 Budget Request Documents

On March 11, President Trump released his fiscal year (FY) 2020 [Budget Request](#). The budget proposes \$2.7 trillion in cuts over 10 years, including cuts to Medicaid, the Affordable Care Act programs, and non-defense discretionary (NDD) programs. NDD programs - which include education, employment, housing, transportation, and more - would be cut by \$54 billion (9 percent from 2019 levels alone). Throughout the week, more detailed department budgets have been released, including those for the Departments of [Education](#), [Health and Human Services](#), [Housing and Urban Development](#), and [Justice](#). These department budgets reveal drastic cuts for numerous disability-related programs such as:

- Office of Disability Employment Policy: -30%
- Developmental Disabilities Councils State Grants: -29%
- University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities: -20%
- Lifespan Respite: -25%

Attending the Disability Policy Seminar, April 8-10:

Monica Cooper, Sarah Ruf, and Julie Whitaker

Gov. Ducey [issued a Proclamation](#) designating March as **Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month** in Arizona.

And, a **\$29 million gift** to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will establish a new research center focused on [probing the biology and neuroscience behind Down syndrome](#). The donation comes from Ana Lucia Villela, Brazil's youngest female billionaire, who has a daughter with Down syndrome.

AZ Legislative Bills/Status as of March 26th:

HB 2008: Duty to Report; Supervisor: Administrator

The list of persons with a duty to report a reasonable belief that a minor has been the victim of abuse or neglect is expanded to include any person who is employed as the immediate or next higher level supervisor to or administrator of a person who has a duty to report (other than the child's parent or guardian) and who develops the reasonable belief in the course of the supervisor's or administrator's employment.

Status: 2/25: Passed House

3/7: Senate Judiciary – DP

3/12: Senate Rules - OK

HB 2117: Developmental Homes: Monitoring/Amended

A service provider that operates a group home or an intermediate care facility for persons with an intellectual disability is permitted to install "electronic monitoring devices" (defined) in common areas. The service provider is required to establish policies regarding the use of electronic monitoring and the policies must include a list of specified provisions.

Status: 3/11: Passed House with amendments

3/20: Senate Health Human Services - DP

HB 2152: Residential Beds; Seriously Mentally Ill/Amended

The Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System is required to report to specified legislative committees the current number of behavioral health residential facility beds and supportive housing beds that are available in Arizona for adults with serious mental illness by December 1, 2019, in addition to by December 1, 2018.

Status: 3/04: Passed House with an amendment

3/20: Senate Health Human Services - DP

HB 2529: Diaper Changing Stations; Public Restrooms/Amended

NOW on HB 2113 as a Striker Bill

As amended, requires any public entity that constructs a new restroom or "substantially renovates" an existing restroom in a public building to include changing stations

capable of serving both a baby and an adult. Despite passing House Health & Human Services unanimously, the measure was held in House Rules and was not passed to the Senate. This bill will be re-introduced as "Strike Everything" HB 2113 and heard in the Senate Health and Human Services committee on Wednesday, March 27th, 10AM.

SB1172: ~~Family Caregivers; Income Tax Credit; NOW Family Caregiver Grant Program~~

Beginning January 1, 2020, the Family Caregiver Grant Program is established for individuals who have "qualifying expenses" (defined) during a calendar year due to caring for and supporting a "qualifying family member" (defined) in the individual's home. Establishes application requirements and income limits to receive a family caregiver grant. The amount of the grant is 50 percent of the qualifying expenses incurred during the calendar year, with a maximum of \$1,000 for each qualifying family member. An individual who receives a grant is not eligible to apply for a grant again for three consecutive calendar years. Appropriates \$1.5 million from the general fund in FY2019-20 to the newly established Family Caregiver Grant Program Fund for the Program. The Program self-repeals July 1, 2023.

Status: 2/27: Passed Senate

3/20: Referred to House Appropriation

SB 1211: Intermediate Care Facilities; Licensure/Amended

By January 1, 2020, an "intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities" (defined) that is operated by the Department of Economic Security or a private entity is required to be licensed as a health care institution and certified under specified federal code. Licensees that employ persons to provide direct care in an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities are required to submit to the Department of Child Safety information necessary to conduct central registry background checks. For any person who is employed or seeking employment in a position that works with children or vulnerable adults, each employer in Arizona is required to conduct an adult protective services registry background check, and is authorized to use the information contained in the registry to determine whether the person is qualified for the position. The Department of Health Services is required to adopt rules requiring employees and personnel of an intermediate care facility for individuals with intellectual disabilities to report abuse or neglect. Emergency clause.

Status: 2/27: Passed Senate with an amendment
3/18: House Health Human Services - DP

SB 1483: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation/Amended

If a "qualified individual" (defined) reasonably believes that financial exploitation of an eligible adult may have occurred, may have been attempted or is being attempted, the individual is permitted to notify Adult Protective Services and the Corporation Commission. An individual who in good faith discloses information under this allowance is immune from administrative or civil liability that might otherwise arise from the disclosure. A broker-dealer or investment adviser is authorized to delay a disbursement from an account of an eligible adult or an account on which an eligible adult is a beneficiary if the broker-dealer, investment adviser or qualified individual reasonably believes that the requested disbursement may result in financial exploitation of an eligible adult, and the broker-dealer or investment adviser takes a list of specified actions, including notifying parties of the delay. A broker-dealer or investment adviser is required to provide access to or copies of records that are relevant to the suspected or attempted financial exploitation of an eligible adult to Adult Protective Services and law enforcement.

Status: 3/7: Passed Senate with an amendment

SB 1538: Adult Protective Services/Amended

Numerous changes relating to Adult Protective Services (APS). Establishes the "Adult Protective Services central intake unit" as a unit of specialized staff within APS that is responsible for receiving and screening reports of alleged abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable adults and making the necessary referrals. APS is authorized to establish a multidisciplinary APS team to develop resources for prevention, intervention and treatment to better meet the community's needs for adult protection services. The list of persons with a duty to report a reasonable belief that a vulnerable adult has been the victim of abuse, neglect or exploitation is expanded to include various health care and emergency personnel and employees of the Department of Economic Security. Unless otherwise provided by law, all personally identifying information concerning any person who is involved in an APS program, including the reporting source's identity, other than a perpetrator against whom an allegation of abuse, neglect or exploitation has been substantiated, and all information that is gathered or created by APS and that is contained in APS records is confidential and may not be released except as specifically

provided in this legislation. APS employees are added to the list of persons who may file an affidavit to request county officers and state agencies prohibit access to that person's residential address and telephone number contained in certain public records, and who must be notified of the expiration of restrictions on related public records.

Status: 2/28: Passed Senate with an amendment

3/7: Referred to House Health Human Services

3/21: House Health Human Services - DP