

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITIES
AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Legislative Committee
MINUTES**

Videoconference Host
Governor's Council
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1230
Anchorage, Alaska

Meeting Date
November 22, 2021
2:00 p.m.

Committee Members:

Art Delaune – Chair
Don Enoch
Jeanne Gerhardt-Cyrus
Heidi Lieb-Williams
Charles (Mack) McAnally
Ric Nelson
Dean Paul
Shelly Vendetti-Vuckovich
Director Duane Mayes

Attendees:

Jena Crafton
Lyle Downing
Dave Fleurant
Michele Girault
Charlene Tautfest

Staff:

Myranda Walso
Jess Doherty
Jamie Kokoszka
Lanny Mommsen
Michele Binkley
Jacqueline Kim

Prepared by: Sheila Garrant, Peninsula Reporting

CALL TO ORDER – 2:00 p.m.
ROLL CALL – Quorum established

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

Art Delaune welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

Declarations of Conflict

No conflicts of interest were declared.

Don Enoch noted that he is not permitted to participate in lobbying activities, and he will excuse himself at points where appropriate.

Announcements and Good News

Lanny Mommsen reminded attendees to fill out the stakeholder survey that went out last week.

Heidi Lieb-Williams asked for prayers for her upcoming medical procedure.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

Approval of the Agenda

Jena Crafton **MOVED** to approve the agenda as presented, **SECONDED** by Don Enoch. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED**.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Jena Crafton **MOVED** to approve the May 12th, 2021 meeting minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Lyle Downing. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

Jena Crafton **MOVED** to approve the May 26th, 2021 meeting minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Ric Nelson. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

Ric Nelson **MOVED** to approve the October 26th, 2021 meeting minutes as presented, **SECONDED** by Mack McAnally. Hearing no opposition, the motion **PASSED**.

Correspondence

Myranda Walso received a message from Senator Micciche indicating he will not be able to attend the meeting.

REPORTS

Chair's Report

Art Delaune outlined the items up for discussion at the meeting. He noted that the Executive Committee has tasked the Legislative Committee with determining how to move forward with the legislative visits.

Art Delaune reported that the fourth special legislative session ended, and there was not a lot accomplished. The legislature will reconvene on January 18th, 2022 to begin the next session. Governor Dunleavy will present his budget for the upcoming year the first week in December.

Staff Report

Jamie Kokoszka reported that the Disability Policy Seminar has been scheduled for March 28 – 30, 2022. The winter virtual Council meeting has been scheduled for January 31 – February 1, 2022.

BUSINESS

Committee Structure

Art Delaune gave a brief description of the roles and responsibilities of the Legislative Committee for new members as follows:

- The Legislative Committee operates with the consent and direction of the Executive Committee, and they work with the Executive Committee to furnish a legislative priority agenda for the Council as a whole.

- The Legislative Committee requests and reviews legislation to determine the effect of proposed legislation on people with disabilities or students in special education.
- The Legislative Committee looks at requests and reviews legislation to determine the effect of proposed legislation on people with disabilities.
- The Legislative Committee is delegated the responsibility of preparing an advocated Council position before the legislature and the federal delegation, and they do that in conjunction with the Executive Committee.
- The Executive Committee has the final word on all of the information and documents coming out of the Legislative Committee.
- The Legislative Committee monitors the progress of legislation and notifies the Council chair of hearings and deadlines for comments on regulations and proposed legislation that would affect people with disabilities.
- As directed by the Executive Committee and the Council, the Legislative Committee prepares proposals to change present laws, and it assists the Executive Committee in the preparation of submitting reports to the legislature.

Art Delaune reported that at this time of year, the Legislative Committee looks to develop legislative priorities and talks about getting that information to the legislators. Regarding legislative visits, the Council voted to employ a hybrid process sharing the visits between virtual and in person. Art noted that a small contingent of Council members will attend in person as long as COVID-19 permits.

Discussion with Senator Micciche

Tabled due to scheduling conflict.

Discuss Upcoming Legislative Visits

Art Delaune reported that last year the legislative visits were done virtually. This year the legislative visits will be scheduled both in person and virtually. A small group of no more than ten Council members will be involved in the in-person visits. The Legislative Committee has been tasked with developing a plan for legislative visits.

After a discussion on scheduling both the virtual visits and in-person visits, the committee agreed to forward the following recommendation to the Executive Committee:

- Schedule the virtual meetings for the week of February 28 – March 4, 2022.
- Schedule the in-person meetings in two groups:
 - Group 1, January 24 – 28, 2022
 - Group 2, February 7 – 11, 2022

**Review and Discussion of Legislative Priorities
Proposed 2022 Position Papers
HB 133 ABLE
Discuss Items for Next Session
Organizing/Prioritizing Bill Watch List
Update on Federal Items**

The above six agenda items were tabled due to time constraints.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Legislative Committee is scheduled for Thursday, December 9th, 2021 from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Shelly Vendetti-Vuckovich **MOVED** to adjourn, **SECONDED** by Heidi Lieb-Williams. Hearing no objection, the motion **PASSED**, and the meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.