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Legislative Outreach Needed on Recreational Activities Bill!

There is a new amendment to HB 1593, which makes an appropriation to the Department of Health and Human Services to support recreational activities for individuals with developmental disabilities.

This amendment sets up a temporary program to restore and, in some cases, maintain recreation funding for those served under one of the three developmental services Medicaid waivers. The long-term plan is to seek permanent recreation funds in next state budget. However, this new amendment will lay the groundwork for future budget advocacy on this issue.



We support amendment #2024-0416h to HB-1593 (see text at link below). The House Health and Human Services Committee must vote on HB 1593 by February 15th. Please spread the word, contact the Health, Human Services & Elderly Affairs committee members, and ask them to support

this amendment. We need outreach to the committee ASAP!

[Read HB-1593 bill text](#)

[Contact the committee members](#)

Senate Passes Down Syndrome Insurance Bill

Below is the committee report on SB 353, the vote in the Senate Health and Human Services committee was 5 to 0. The full Senate will take up this recommendation on Thursday, February 8th.

SB 353-FN clarifies insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome pursuant to RSA 417-E. The Committee heard very compelling testimony about the real-world impact that applied behavioral analysis (ABA) has on individuals and families. ABA helps many people develop the skills needed to live full, healthy, vibrant lives as productive members of society and there is evidence that ABA is effective for people with Down syndrome. The Committee also believes that there is merit in having a conversation about expanding SB 353-FN to apply to all developmental disabilities, rather than just being limited to autism and Down syndrome and hopes the bill will be sent to the Finance Committee so that conversation can take place.

Upcoming Public Hearings

HB 1291, relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right. Public Hearing: 02/16/2024 02:30 pm Legislative Office Building, Room 302-304

HB 1168, establishing a committee to study the impact of the housing

crisis on people with disabilities. Public Hearing: 02/16/2024 09:00 am
Legislative Office Building, Room 302-304

Other Bills to Watch

HB 1028, relative to the definition of mental illness for purposes of the New Hampshire mental health services system.

HB 1168, establishing a committee to study the impact of the housing crisis on people with disabilities.

HB 1291, relative to accessory dwelling unit uses allowed by right.

SB 408, establishing a committee to study the effects of the housing crisis on the disability community.

SB 353, relative to insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorder and Down syndrome.

HB 1615, relative to the autism registry.

SB 403, relative to health care workforce investments.

HB 1069, relative to material subject to disclosure following a public meeting under the right-to-know law.



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