

# THIS WEEK IN PUBLIC POLICY

MAY 20 – MAY 24, 2019

## IN OHIO:

On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, the Senate Finance Committee heard reports from each of the Finance Subcommittee's regarding the budget. Senator Bob Hackett, chairman of the Subcommittee on Health and Medicaid reported to the committee that they heard plenty of testimony from individuals and organizations in support of the DSP wage increase, as well as testimony that suggested that a study committee created by an amendment in the House was unnecessary and duplicative. Senator Cecil Thomas, ranking member of the Subcommittee on Health and Medicaid also provided a report to the committee, indicating that he would be submitting an amendment that seeks to increase the DSP wage to \$15 per hour, above the current bill proposal of \$13 per hour. Hackett also told the Committee that the Subcommittee heard from many families in support of the Informed Choice amendment. There was no mention of the P&A Oversight Amendment.

On Thursday, May 23, 2019, Governor Mike DeWine announced the appointment of James Clinkscale as the Statewide ADA Coordinator. Clinkscale comes to the job from within the Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities Agency (Manager of Diversity and Inclusion and ADA Coordinator for OOD).

## IN WASHINGTON:

With a little extra time on my hands this week, I was able to complete my federal appropriations spreadsheet, as approved by the House Appropriations Subcommittee. According to the committee's report, the Labor, HHS, Education line items that we track are all slated for a \$1.3 Billion increase. The line-items are as follows:

Program	2019 Funding Level	President	House Appropriations Committee Approved	Difference from 2019	Difference from President
Autism and Other Developmental Disorders	\$50,599,000	0	\$53,099,000	\$2,500,000	\$53,099,000
Autism Cares - LEND	\$33,500,000		\$35,245,000	\$1,745,000	
DD Councils	\$76,000,000	\$56,000,000	\$80,000,000	\$4,000,000	\$24,000,000
State P&As	\$40,734,000	\$38,734,000	\$43,000,000	\$2,266,000	\$4,266,000
Voting Access for PWD	\$6,963,000	\$4,963,000	\$8,963,000	\$2,000,000	\$4,000,000

Projects of National Significance	\$12,000,000	\$1,050,000	\$13,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$11,950,000
UCEDDS	\$40,619,000	\$32,546,000	\$41,619,000	\$1,000,000	\$9,073,000
Independent Living	\$116,183,000	\$108,646,000	\$116,183,000	\$0	\$7,537,000
Assistive Technology	\$36,000,000	\$31,939,000	\$37,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$5,061,000
ACL Administration	\$41,063,000	\$38,987,000	\$41,063,000	\$0	\$2,076,000
Office of Disability Employment Policy	\$38,203,000	\$27,000,000	\$38,500,000	\$297,000	\$11,500,000
Birth Defects, DD, Disabilities and Health Research	\$155,560,000	\$112,000,000	\$161,560,000	\$6,000,000	\$49,560,000
Adoption Assistance - Special Needs	\$2,867,000,000	\$3,063,000,000	\$3,063,000,000	\$196,000,000	\$0
National Institute on Disability, Independent Living	\$108,970,000	\$90,371,000	\$108,970,000	\$0	\$18,599,000
Impact Aid - Students with Disabilities	\$48,316,000	\$48,316,000	\$48,316,000	\$0	\$0
IDEA - Part B	\$12,364,392,000	\$12,364,392,000	\$13,364,392,000	\$1,000,000,000	\$1,000,000,000
IDEA - Preschool Grants - 3 to 5	\$391,120,000	\$391,120,000	\$398,400,000	\$7,280,000	\$7,280,000
IDEA - Part C	\$470,000,000	\$470,000,000	\$491,300,000	\$21,300,000	\$21,300,000
Special Education - Technology/Media	\$28,047,000	28,047,000	\$30,047,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Special Education - Parent Information Centers	\$27,411,000	\$27,411,000	\$30,000,000	\$2,589,000	\$2,589,000
Special Education - Personnel Prep	\$87,200,000	\$87,200,000	\$98,310,000	\$11,110,000	\$11,110,000
Special Education - State Personnel Development	\$38,630,000	\$38,630,000	\$40,630,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Special Education - Technical Assistance	\$61,928,000	\$44,345,000	\$65,465,000	\$3,537,000	\$21,120,000
Vocational Rehabilitation - State Grants	\$3,657,189,000	\$3,719,527,000	\$3,752,076,000	\$94,887,000	\$32,549,000
Client Assistance State Grants	\$13,000,000	\$13,000,000	\$15,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000
Rehab Services - Training	\$29,388,000	\$29,388,000	\$30,188,000	\$800,000	\$800,000
Rehab Services - Demonstration and Training	\$5,796,000	\$5,796,000	\$7,333,000	\$1,537,000	\$1,537,000
Rehab Services - P&A	\$17,650,000	\$17,650,000	\$17,650,000	\$0	\$0
Rehab Services - Support Employment	\$22,548,000	\$0	\$22,548,000	\$0	\$22,548,000
Rehab Services - Hellen Keller National Center	\$13,500,000	\$10,336,000	\$16,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$5,664,000

American Printing House for the Blind	\$30,431,000	\$25,431,000	\$39,000,000	\$8,569,000	\$13,569,000
Technical Institute for the Deaf	\$77,500,000	\$70,016,000	\$80,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$9,984,000
Higher Educaiton - Postsecondary Programs	\$11,800,000	\$11,800,000	\$11,800,000	\$0	\$0
Research in Special Education	\$56,000,000	\$54,000,000	\$61,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$7,000,000
Special Education Studies and Evaluations	\$10,818,000	\$10,818,000	\$11,674,000	\$856,000	\$856,000
National Council on Disabilities	\$3,250,000	\$3,450,000	\$3,450,000	\$200,000	\$0
		(\$13,399,000)		\$1,386,473,000	\$1,364,627,000

On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, the House Financial Services Committee held a hearing entitled, “Housing in America: Oversight of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.” Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Dr. Ben Carson provided the committee with [testimony](#) (devoid of any reference to disability-specific housing programs). The Committee’s staff also issued a [memorandum](#) of the hearing, identifying problems the majority in the House sees with the management and administration of HUD.

On Tuesday, May 21, 2019, the House Education and Labor Committee held a hearing entitled, “Eliminating Barriers to Employment: Opening Doors to Opportunity.” Chairman of the Committee Bobby Scott (VA) states in his [opening statement](#) that, “More than 130,000 employees with disabilities are employed under 14(c) certificates (sub-minimum wage certificate).” He also says, “at least 95 percent of individuals with disabilities who enter subminimum wage jobs never obtain competitive employment though, with appropriate support, most could make the minimum wage.” The committee is considering [HR 873](#) (Transformation to Competitive Employment Act), which would phase out 14(c) certificates over a 6-year period and provides \$300 million to the Department of Labor to award grants to states to help transition subminimum wage employees into competitive integrated employment, and to subsidize the wages of those individuals who cannot make the minimum wage due to their ability. Testifying in support of HR 873 was [Shayne Roos, Senior Vice President of ACHIEVA Support \(Pittsburgh, PA\)](#). ACHIEVA is a parent-formed nonprofit organization that provides early intervention, waiver, and other services to individuals with disabilities. US Representatives Marcy Kaptur (OH-9) and Tim Ryan (OH-13) are both co-sponsors of HR 873.

On Wednesday, May 22, 2019, the Senate Special Committee on Aging held a hearing to examine aging and disability in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, focusing on how technology can help maintain health and quality of life. The committee heard from Assistive Technology providers about the different ways that smart home remote monitoring devices, wearable monitors, medication-management technologies and personal emergency-response systems are enable more individuals who are aging and those with

disabilities to maintain or attain independence and to reduce the “care gap”. The committees webpage on [this hearing](#) includes links to [all the testimony](#).

## NEXT WEEK IN PUBLIC POLICY MAY 27 – MAY 31, 2019

### IN OHIO:

On Tuesday, May 28, 2019, the Senate Finance Committee will hold ALL Testimony related to Health, Human Services and Medicaid Budgets. If you would like to testify on the budget, this may be one of your last opportunities. The hearing will take place at 10:00 a.m. in the Senate Finance Hearing Room.

### IN WASHINGTON:

No pertinent meeting scheduled.