



2017 Public Policy Agenda Executive Summary

The 2017 legislative session provides many opportunities to advance initiatives that will lead to greater independence for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities (I/DD). Below is an overview of the legislative priorities for The Arc of Indiana.

Legislative Priorities:

Fiscal Related

Continue to support efforts to create a sustainable system that attracts and maintains the Direct Support Professional workforce, including raising reimbursement rates for services.

Support efforts to increase preschool funding.

Support improved funding for programs and services that support people with disabilities, their families and service providers.

Support legislation that provides an appropriation for ABLE accounts to be made available to Hoosiers with disabilities.

Non Fiscal Related

Support legislation that increases employment opportunities for people with I/DD, including Employment First legislation.

Support bias crimes legislation that increases sentencing to offenders who commit crimes solely based on a person having a disability.

Work to ensure the assessment replacement for ISTEP includes opportunities for students receiving special education services to have access to a test that allows them to demonstrate academic progress with the appropriate accommodations and resources.

Support efforts to update key statutes to make supported decision making a viable option for people with I/DD.

Support legislation that requests a comprehensive study to be developed looking at the services and supports for people with I/DD currently and in the next few years.

Support legislation that puts forth a study of licensure of applied behavior analysts.