



California Collaboration

2024-2025 LEGISLATIVE BILL SUMMARY

This year, several important bills supported by The Arc & UCP California Collaboration were passed by the California Legislature. Out of the bills supported by The Arc & UCP California Collaboration that reached Governor Gavin Newsom's desk, all were signed and none were vetoed! This is a major success for our community! Thank you to the Governor for his support of our community in this session.

These new laws represent big wins for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and their families. We celebrate the lawmakers, partners, and advocates who worked tirelessly to make sure these bills passed. Their dedication helps protect the rights, independence, and quality of life of Californians with disabilities.

LEGISLATION SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CHAPTERED:

- **[AB 341 \(Arambula, D\)](#) Oral Health for People with Disabilities Technical Assistance Center Program.**
We brought the idea for this law to Assembly Member Arambula and he agreed to be the author of this bill. This new law establishes the *Oral Health for People with Disabilities Technical Assistance Center Program* within the Department of Developmental Services (DDS). Through a partnership with a California dental school, the program will expand provider training, develop regional center partnerships, and reduce the need for dental treatment under general anesthesia, an issue that has left many people with disabilities waiting up to three years for necessary care! We are proud to have helped bring this important legislation forward. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Assemblymember Arambula for his continued leadership and commitment to the disability community.
- **[AB 951 \(Ta, R\)](#) Health care coverage: behavioral diagnoses.**
Until now, California law required health plans to cover behavioral health treatments for conditions like autism. However, many health plans made individuals get re-diagnosed, sometimes every six months, to keep receiving services. This was stressful and time-consuming for people with disabilities and their families. Starting January 1, health plans will no longer be allowed to require a re-diagnosis for people who already have a qualifying diagnosis. This change will save families a lot of time, money, and frustration, and help people with disabilities maintain coverage.

- [AB 1069 \(Bains, D\)](#) **Older adults: emergency shelters.**
This law provides recommendations for evacuating and sheltering older adults and people with disabilities that reside in long term care facilities during emergencies like the wildfires that we experience in California. It also expands the role of our current state agencies and will require them to coordinate these emergency services.
- [AB 1230 \(Bonta, D\)](#) **Pupil discipline: expulsions: procedures.**
Students with developmental disabilities are expelled from schools at a much higher rate than the general population. When a child is expelled, under current law, the schools are required to create a rehabilitation plan. Under this new law the rehabilitation plan must include services required by the students under their existing Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The new law requires necessary resources for the rehabilitation plan, which the family will not be required to pay for out of pocket. This will allow the student the opportunity to get the services they need to get back into the school system as quickly and successfully as possible.
- [AB 1172 \(Nguyen, D\)](#) **Adult day programs: administration of intranasal emergency antiseizure medications.**
This new law will allow seizure rescue medications to be administered by day program staff. In the past only healthcare professionals could administer these medicines, which meant many individuals could not participate in day programs and other activities. This will allow more people with disabilities to actively participate in their community!
- [SB 258 \(Wahab, D\)](#) **Crimes: rape.**
- [AB 784 \(Hoover, R\)](#) **Special education: specialized deaf and hard-of-hearing services.**
- [AB 1412 \(Gonzalez, Jeff, R\)](#) **Special education: pupil transfers: residency requirements: records.**
- [SB 471 \(Menjivar, D\)](#) **Office of the Developmental Services Ombudsperson.**
- [SB 582 \(Stern, D\)](#) **Health and care facilities: licensing during emergencies or disasters.**
- [AB 1076 \(Addis, D\)](#) **Qualified ABLE Program: CalABLE accounts: funding.**
- [SB 530 \(Richardson, D\)](#) **Medi-Cal: time and distance standards.**
- [SB 250 \(Ochoa Bogh, R\)](#) **Medi-Cal: provider directory: skilled nursing facilities.**

RESOLUTIONS SIGNED BY THE GOVERNOR AND CHAPTERED

- [SCR 35 \(Grayson, D\)](#) **California Down Syndrome Awareness Month and California Down Syndrome Awareness Day.**

- [SCR 41 \(Ashby, D\)](#) Special Olympics Day.
- HR 24 (Nguyen, D) Relative to Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.
- ACR 41 (Patterson, R) California Down Syndrome Awareness Week and Day.
- [ACR 50 \(Ahrens, D\)](#) Special Olympics Day.
- [ACR 55 \(Gonzalez, Jeff, R\)](#) ARC v. Department of Developmental Services: 40th anniversary.
- [AJR 3 \(Schiavo, D\)](#) Public social services: Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid.