



Self Advocates in Leadership

SAIL UPDATE

February 2014

Session Roles On. . . Your Voice is Needed!

As usual it has been a very busy session! There was another bill that several people have had interest in following and working on. HB 2616 Concerning parents with disabilities involved in dependency hearings. This bill had a very good hearing. Sara McQueed, who is a SAIL member, testified as well as others. There were several written testimonies that went to legislators. The bill is around parents with disabilities having the planning and supports needed to raise a child in the home. At the time of the hearing there wasn't any money attached. The next committee as it turned out was the House Appropriations (Money) Committee. The Children's Administration added money to try and kill the bill. By the end of that day the bill had amendments that eliminated the huge amount of money needed and limited the scope of the bill. The next step was the House Rules Committee, also know as the graveyard. It passed out of the House Rules Committee the next time they met. The next afternoon the bill was heard on the floor and passed out of the House. Now we must work in the Senate. Coming up shortly, there will be a Public Hearing on 2SHB 2616. Thank you to everyone who has worked on this bill! Keep it up!

Thank You Notes

Without the help of Representative Kagi and Representative Fagan the bill would have surely not gotten out of the House Appropriations (Money) Committee. At the meeting everyone signed thank you cards to be delivered the following day.

A Note from the Chair

February 2014

Hello! This next meeting we will be beginning the bylaws discussion. Looking forward to having as many people there as possible. Skyping with more locations will hopefully begin before the end of the year. Looking forward to seeing you!

Sincerely, Anthony Nash II, Chair of SAIL

Update and Action We Can Take on the CRPD



The Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities is an international disability treaty created to give similar rights like our own ADA to people with disabilities around the world. The problem is that the US has not ratified the treaty. At the time of our meeting there was a couple of days in there that Congress could have ratified it, but did not. As our next step the group decided to draft a letter that will go to the Foreign Relations Committee. In April there is a group from Washington State who will be attending the Public Policy Seminar in Washington, DC. At that time they will be delivering the letter to the committee members. It was decided that at the next meeting the final wording of the letter will be worked out. Hopefully our letter will help those Senators to decide that it is a good idea to ratify this important treaty for people with disabilities around the world. Thanks for making your voice heard not only here in Washington State but Nationally. It makes a difference!

Getting Prepared For The Independent Living Day Rally



Jody Pechin was selected as this years SAIL representative at the Independent Living Day Rally. During the meeting the group gave some suggestions of what Jody could include in her speech. It sounds like her speech is coming together nicely. I am looking forward to hearing it! We will check in with people who were able to attend at the next meeting. Don't forget your umbrella!

Come to Advocacy Day!

February 26 is Employment Advocacy Day. This Advocacy Day is going to be in the Columbia Room. It is located in the Legislative Building (the building with the dome) on the first floor right in the center. This is our last Advocacy Day so go out and tell your legislators why employment is so important to you! Looking forward to seeing you there!

UPCOMING SAIL MEETINGS: Mark your calendar!

MARCH 11, 2014

April 8, 2014

May 13, 2014

June 10, 2014