**C****ommunication and Collaboration Committee Meeting**

February 9, 2024

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Action Items:

* Committee members will review the bills to potentially add to the SILC watch list, so they can vote at the next meeting.
* HR7138 will be added to the SILC Legislative Watch List.
* Ms. Hayes will share information on the amicus brief about access to abortion healthcare for people with disabilities.
* Ms. England will follow up with the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) about the results of the recent California Homeless Survey.

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions

Lisa Hayes – C and C Chair/Executive Director, Rolling Start Inc.

Roque Alas Bucton – SILC Vice Chair/C and C Member

Ligia Andrade Zuniga – SILC Chair/C and C Member

Anisa Escobedo – C and C Vice Chair/SILC Member

Kim Rothschild – California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS (CAPA)

Nicole Zacarias – Independent Living Center of Kern County (ILCKC)

Carrie England – SILC Executive Director

Allison Viramontes-Nhan – SILC Legislative Specialist

Danielle Hess – SILC Office Manager

1. Public Comment

None

1. SILC Member Updates

Ms. Escobedo has been appointed to represent the SILC on the California Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities (CCEPD).

Ms. Andrade Zuniga shared that the San Mateo Transition to Independence Fair will be on February 10, 2024. She also shared that the San Mateo Union High School District Director of Special Education is retiring, and she asked members to recommend anyone they know who may do well in that job.

1. Approve Draft Minutes from January 12, 2024, Committee Meeting

Ms. Andrade Zuniga motioned for approval of the Draft Minutes from January 12, 2024, and Ms. Escobedo seconded the motion. This passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

1. Legislation Update
   1. Legislative Items for Review and Approval

Ms. Viramontes-Nhan reviewed the upcoming legislative calendar. She answered questions about how many bills a legislator can introduce during a two-year session, which is 40 in the Senate and 50 in the Assembly. She shared reasons that Legislators may introduce bills that have no chance of passing, including that they can start discussions, communicate issues, provide contrast from other bills, make statements, and benefit them politically.

The following state bills have been suggested to be added to the SILC legislative watch list. They were briefly reviewed, and members will look more into them to vote on at the next meeting.

* + AB 1813 (Alanis) Senior Tenant Shallow Rental Subsidy Program of 2024: housing grants.
  + AB 1906 (Gipson) Persons with disabilities: terminology.
  + AB 1925 (Rendon) Childcare and development programs: eligibility.
  + AB 1938 (Gallagher) Special education: inclusive practices and strategies.
  + AB 2026 (Mathis) Disabilities: person-first terminology.

Ms. Hayes shared information about the varied feelings of people with disabilities on person-first or disability-first language.

17 bills have been removed from the SILC watch list because they did not meet the deadlines to pass during this legislative session.

Ms. Viramontes-Nhan shared information about the following bills, which are on the SILC Legislative Watch List and have been updated since the last update.

* AB 817 (Pacheco) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body. STATUS: 1/25/24 Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. (Ayes 54. Noes 8.) In Senate. Read first time. To Senate Rules Committee for assignment.
* AB 846 (Bonta) Low-income housing credit: rent increases. STATUS: 1/30/24 Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. (Ayes 59. Noes 6.) In Senate. Read first time. To Senate Rules Committee for assignment.
* SB 585 (Niello) Disability access: construction-related accessibility claims: statutory damages: attorney’s fees and costs. STATUS: 7/14/23 This bill was held under submission and has failed the necessary Legislative Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). May be acted upon Jan 2024. Ms. Viramontes-Nhan has spoken to the sponsor’s legislative director and was told they are trying to meet with the new chair of the Judiciary Committee. This won’t move until March at the earliest and has until May 3 to move forward. She suggested this as an impactful bill that attendees could reach out to their local representatives about.

The following Federal Bill has been recommended to be added to the SILC legislative watch list.

* + H.R. 7138 (Representative Raúl M. Grijalva) The Supplementary Security Income (SSI) Restoration Act.

Ms. Escobedo made a motion to follow this bill, and Mr. Alas Bucton seconded the motion. This passed unanimously through a roll call vote.

Mr. Alas Bucton asked if the SILC could get information on the most recent California Homeless count from the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR), and Ms. England said she would look into it.

Ms. Viramontes-Nhan was asked if there would be specific talking points for legislative visits, and she answered that she would work individually with each member on their specific talking points and scheduling the meetings. Ms. England clarified that the talking points will be related to the 2024 SPIL goals.

In December, the SILC wrote a letter to the United States Census Bureau about how people with disabilities will be counted in the 2030 Census. After receiving a lot of feedback, the Director of the United States Census Bureau determined that they would not be making the proposed changes to the Disability Questions. They will be working with the disability community on how to best address the data needs and use around the topic of disability. Ms. Hayes shared concerns about including the disability questions under the “health” section, instead of under the other population groups.

* 1. Legislative Items for Consideration from SILC Members

The meeting attendees didn’t have any recommendations for new bills to follow.

* 1. Current Events and Updates

Ms. Hayes shared that the National Council on Independent Living (NCIL) signed on to an amicus brief from the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF) on the importance of people with disabilities having access to accessible abortion healthcare and other reproductive healthcare. She will share this with Ms. Viramontes-Nhan to send to the full SILC.

1. Advocacy and Collaborations - Requests from Members or Partner Organizations
   1. YO! Disabled and Proud Updates

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers (CFILC) is currently in transition and has not been able to send a representative to these meetings in a while. Ms. Viramontes-Nhan shared that they have a new Statewide Youth Organizer, and he plans to attend these meetings in the future.

* 1. Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities (YLF)

Ms. Hess shared that the application period for delegates has been closed, but the application for staff is available and can be found on the CCEPD YLF webpage. The schedule has been mostly finalized and speakers are being invited, with several partners working to get the Capitol Visit scheduled. The next planning meeting will be the afternoon of February 14.

Ms. England shared that an alumni from the 2023 YLF program will be presenting at the March 2024 SILC Meeting on his experience at YLF and his plans and goals.

* 1. California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS (CAPA) Updates

Ms. Rothschild shared that a CAPA statewide collective bargaining workgroup has been added to the Governor’s budget as a result of a bill that would move collective bargaining of In-Home Services and Supports (IHSS) providers to the state. This workgroup will analyze the costs and benefits of this and will commence on February 22. There are two IHSS consumers on the committee. She will share updates on this as the workgroup progresses.

* 1. Suggestions for Speakers and Topics

1. Summary of Activities Requiring Follow-Up at Next Meeting
   1. Next Meeting April 12, 2024 (March Meeting Canceled in Favor of the SILC March Council Meeting)
2. Adjourn