



**Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment
Legislative Subcommittee
Meeting Minutes
Friday, November 14, 2025
9:00 a.m.**

Attendees: Patti Dailey-Shives, Legislative Chair; Nancy Zellers, Legislative Vice-Chair; Amy Cloud, Marsha Cutting, Lucas Doelman, Steve Lewis and Napal Tesfai. Staff: Elizabeth Gordon and Elaine Stefanowicz.

1. Approval of agenda and minutes. (Quorum = 7). Agenda: Marsha made a motion to approve the agenda and Amy seconded the motion. None were opposed and the agenda was approved as written. Minutes: Lucas made a motion to approve the minutes and Nancy seconded the motion. None were opposed and the minutes were approved as written.
2. Legislative 101 Training: Patti. Patti's PowerPoint is attached. Members were reminded to speak on their own behalf and not GCDE's. For the December meeting, Amy will present Advocacy 101 training. This will include how to tell your story for testimony and how to speak to legislators in a non-partisan manner. It was suggested that we practice role playing and learn how to create an elevate pitch on an issue. Personal stories really make an impact.
3. Discussion: What do members need from us to be better advocates?
4. Cross Disability Action Network (CDAN) Update: Elizabeth. CDAN is a forum for people with disabilities to discuss legislative matters and issues they are passionate about. Disability Rights Washington (DRW) isn't able to provide admin support to CDAN, and they approached GCDE to see if we would take it over. However, CDAN would lose some its independence because we're a government entity. GCDE and DRW formed a partnership so independence can be maintained. GCDE will schedule CDAN meetings and guest speakers. David Lord (previously with DRW) has agreed to track legislation for CDAN. They focus on a disability justice perspective and issues

such as: Medicaid cuts, rural hospitals funding in federal budget. Let Elizabeth know if you want an invitation to a CDAN meeting.

5. Roundtable Discussion about Legislative Priorities.

This article was shared with the group: <https://governor.wa.gov/news/2025/governor-ferguson-ballmer-group-announce-new-grant-fund-early-learning-10000-washington-kids> and <https://ballmergroup.org/ballmer-group-eceap-expansion/>.

Next meeting is Friday, December 19, 2025, at 9:00 am