

Legislative Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Governor's Committee on Disability Issues and Employment

September 25, 2026

9:00 am

Attendees: Patti Dailey-Shives, chair: Kristin DiBiase, Lucas Doelman, Elise Hutchison, Steve Lewis, Brian McMahon, Brit Nuckles, Dean Olson, Sawyer Stearns, and Napal Tesfai. Staff: Elizabeth Gordon and Elaine Stefanowicz.

Meeting Purpose: To prepare for the 2026/2027 legislation session.

Meeting Results:

By the end of the meeting participants will:

- Discuss list of legislative priorities
- Share what's going on in your local area

<u>Time</u>	<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Person(s) Responsible</u>
9:00	Call meeting to order/roll call (Q=6)	Patti Dailey-Shives, Chair
9:05	Agenda/minutes approval	Patti Dailey-Shives, Chair
	<u>Agenda:</u> Kristin made a motion to approve the agenda and Amy seconded the motion. None were opposed and the agenda was approved as written. <u>Minutes:</u> Lucas made a motion to approve the minutes and Elise seconded the motion. None were opposed and the minutes were approved as written.	
9:10	Legislative Priorities Overview & Survey	Elizabeth Gordon
	Elizabeth shared the legislative priorities voting results. She recommended that the group select the top three (3) choices:	
	1. Civil rights 2. Accessible voting 3. Housing 4. Restraint and isolation (placeholder)	
	<u>VOTE:</u> Kristin made a motion to take the top three (3) ranked legislative priorities and save the 4 th choice as a placeholder. Brit seconded the motion. None were opposed and the motion passed.	

Elizabeth said all legislation affecting people with disabilities is important and we will flag anything that might be an issue. She recommended that if members are passionate about other legislative issues, she would be happy to meet with them to write up some talking points.

Suggestions:

- Andrea from Disability Rights Washington was suggested to talk with us about restraint and isolation in schools.
- Ask someone from Secretary of State's office to talk about accessible voting.
- We could create talking points about why these issues are important to people with disabilities.
- Collect stories and put a one-pager together to use when talking with legislators.
- Administrative burden can be intersected with other issues. A lot of these issues are interconnected.
- If you know about people working on legislation that we should know about, please share.
- GCDE can't get involved in anything involving partisanship or elections. We can get involved in accessible voting. We work with partners outside of GCDE.

9:25

Legislative Spreadsheet

Patti Dailey-Shives

Elizabeth looks at all bills introduced or brought back from the previous session. She put the bills into tiers as related to people with disabilities. Tier 1: bills specifically related to a disability-related service or support. Tier 2: bills that have the word "disability" in it but may not directly impact people with disabilities. Tier 3: does not affect people with disabilities.

December 9th is when bills start dropping. It can take several sessions for a bill to pass. The bill sponsor is a good person to reach out to share your story. You can sign up to testify and will be given 1-2 minutes to speak about why you think a

bill is important. Legislators listen; stories are powerful. It was recommended that members pick a bill(s) that's important to them and be the point person and keep the Legislative subcommittee updated. Every week, we update the spreadsheet on the [GCDE website](#). You can reach out to [Elizabeth](#), and she will give you an update on a bill.

We won't always agree on every issue, please be gracious in this space.
It was asked if GCDE has ever been involved in drafting legislation and Elizabeth said that we worked directly on the Nothing About Us Without Us bill.

9:45	Legislative Training Suggestions? Suggestions for future training?	Patti Dailey-Shives
	▪ How to keep up with public comments and where they're coming from (what different channels people can follow). ▪ How to share your voice/public testimony on things that are important to you. ▪ Patti said she's working on Legislation 201 that will discuss how to do a deeper dive into leg.wa.gov by setting trackers, getting reminders and make the website work for you. Brit will work with Patti on this training together and have it ready by November/December this year. ▪ It was asked what to do if you are a state employee. Don't use your state email for any political reasons—use your personal email only. Don't do political activities during the workday. Don't display political items on your work desk. As a GCDE member, speak on your own behalf and not as a GCDE representative.	

9:50	Roundtable Discussion	All
10:00	Adjourn	All

Next meeting: Friday, November 20, 2026, at 9:00 am