



Vision

○ All people with disabilities have competitive employment in an inclusive workforce.

Mission

○ To advance employment equity for people with disabilities

Values

○ We believe that everyone can and should work, and have the dignity of determining their career path.

PA APSE Statewide Update

PA APSE Systems Work

- OVR Provider Workgroup
 - PETS
 - Supported Employment Policy
 - OOS
- Information Sharing and Advisory Committee (ISAC)
- Informed Decision Making Campaign
- PA Rehab Council

Current PA APSE Work – COVID19

Letter to ODP

- To maintain robust employment services and outcomes we requested the same 'up to 75% retainer payments as CPS/Day Hab providers

Current PA APSE Work – COVID19

- OVR
 - Virtual/remote service delivery
 - P.E.T.S
 - Temporary/seasonal employment
 - Community Based Work Assessments
 - Phase I
 - Phase II
 - Phase III-V for job supports
 - Extended/Emergency job coaching
 - Project SEARCH
 - Waitlist for services

How To Facilitate the Business Case of Enhancing the Workforce

- **Managing a Dual-Customer Approach**
- **Making the Business Case**
- **Determining Fit**
- **Diversity in the Workplace**
- **Resources**

National APSE Policy Priorities:

- Phase out of 14(c) and subminimum wage
 - Transformation to Competitive Employment Act (HR 873 / S 260)
 - Raise the Wage Act (HR 582 / S 150)
- Supporting implementation of WIOA and achieving CIE
 - CAPABILITY Act (HR 3070)
 - Disability Employment Incentive Act (HR 3992 / S 255)
- Compliance with the Medicaid HCBS settings rule
 - Disability Integration Act (HR 555/ S 117)
 - HCBS Infrastructure Improvement Act (TBD / S3277)
- Promoting ABLE expansion
 - ABLE Age Adjustment Act (HR 1814 / S 651)
- Preventing cuts to Medicaid and Social Security
 - SSI Restoration Act (S 2753)
- Addressing the DSP workforce shortage crisis
 - Direct CARE Opportunity Act (HR 4397)
 - Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act (HR 6045/ S 3369)

National APSE is Monitoring:

- Raise the Wage Act (HR 582 / S 150)
- CAPABILITY Act (HR-3070)
- ABLE Age Adjustment Act (HR 1814 / S 651)
- Disability Integration Act (HR 555/ S 117)
- Disability Employment Incentive Act (HR 3992 / S 255)
- Direct CARE Opportunity Act (HR 4397)
- SSI Restoration Act (HR4280/ S 2753)
- Senior Care Act (HR5429)
- Transition to Competitive Employment (HR 873 / S 260)
- HCBS Infrastructure Investment Act (TBD/S3277)
- Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act (HR 6045/ S 3369)

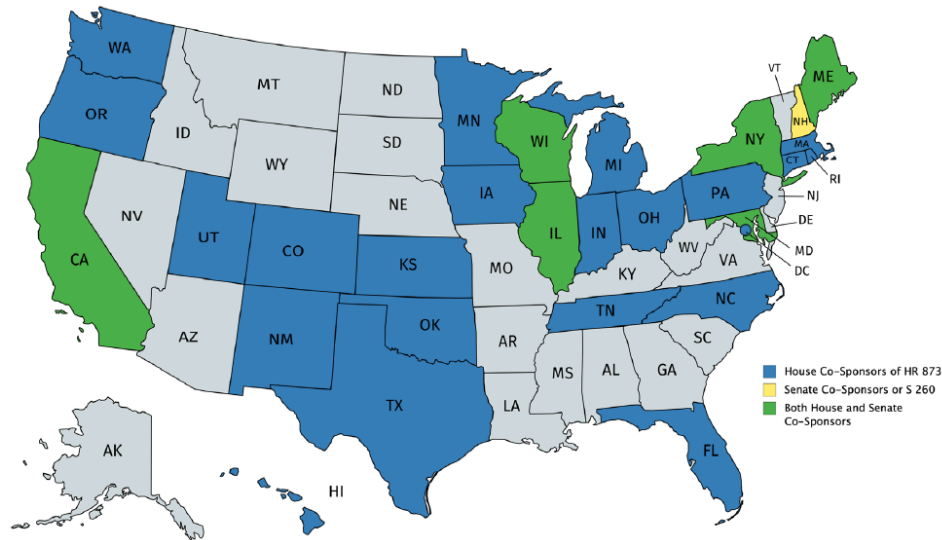
Additional Issues

- Medicaid Block Granting
- Medicaid Work Requirements
- WIOA
- MFP & Spousal
Impoverishment Protections
- Medicaid / Medicare for All
- HCBS Implementation
- Social Security Reform



Transformation to Competitive Employment Act ([HR 873](#) / [S 260](#))

- Two new co-sponsors of HR 873 → TOTAL: 59
 - Rep. Lori Trahan (D-MA-3)
 - Rep. Jahana Hayes (D-CT-5)



Congressional
Briefing is currently
on-hold



Recognizing the Role of Direct Support Professionals Act ([HR 6045](#)/ [S 3369](#))

- To require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, and for other purposes.
- This will help States and the Federal Government:
 - better interpret the shortage in the labor market of direct support professionals; and
 - collect data on the high turnover rate of direct support professionals.
- Senate Bill: (3) co-sponsors, bipartisan → Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
- House Bill: (6) co-sponsors, bipartisan → Ed & Labor

ACTION ALERT: MFP & Spousal Impoverishment Protections



- Reach out to MOCs, especially members of the [Senate Finance Committee](#), to support MFP reauthorization.
 - Money Follows the Person (MFP) program provides additional Medicaid funding to states to move more than 91,000 seniors and individuals with disabilities out of institutions and back home.
 - Independent evaluations have proven MFP improves the quality of life for individuals and has **reduced Medicaid expenditures by approximately 23%**. States save money and see better outcomes.
 - **Funding for MFP expires May 22, 2020.** Without action **NOW**, more people will be stuck in institutions.

ACTION ALERT

- **Help Us Tell Congress Why Expanded Funding for HCBS Is So Critical!**
- During the COVID-19 public health emergency, continuing and strengthening Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) is critical to reducing the likelihood of spreading the virus and is essential for supporting people with disabilities.
- We need your help in advocating for more funding and support for HCBS in any future Congressional package to address COVID-19 by sharing your stories about what HCBS means to people with disabilities and the direct support professionals who support them.

What Can You Do??

- Using your cell phone, tablet or laptop camera, **record a BRIEF video** (2 minutes MAX.) sharing your story of why receiving/delivering services in the community is so important.
- **Don't forget to share your name and the state you live in.**
- **Stories about employment supports, and how they lead to jobs in the community, are especially needed.**
- **Do you currently work in an essential job (or are you supporting someone who is) during this public health crisis? Tell that story!**
- Once your video is recorded, **please upload it to Twitter with a short message.** Be sure to:
- Include the following hashtags: #WhatWeNeed #EmploymentFirst #WeAreEssential
- Tag: @DemsonAging @NationalAPSE
- Tag: Your Members of Congress and ask them to support S3544

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www.apse.org

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