

# OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

FEBRUARY 23, 2024

**HB 427:** This week, Representative Jarrells and Lipps introduced a bill that would eliminate the use of state licenses to pay sub-minimum/commensurate wage to workers with certain disabilities. The bill would close the door on new state licenses 90 days after the bill's passage and would eliminate the ability to pay wages below Ohio's state minimum five years after the bill's passage. The bill also requires DODD and OOD to create a plan to help people find opportunities outside of sub-minimum wage work and providers to develop agency transition plans. [You can find more information about the bill here.](#) Please reach out to [Christine](#) or [Scott](#) with any questions or additional feedback.

**Eclipse!:** Many portions of Ohio will be impacted by the path of the solar eclipse, happening on Monday, April 8. Additionally, many schools and businesses have already made the decision to close given the concerns regarding the amount of additional people and traffic coming into the state that day. [OPRA has put together a ppt with a list of resources for providers](#) and will continue to provide updates. Reach out to [Rachel](#), our newly designated Eclipse Expert, with any questions!

**DB101 Survey and Webinar:** The World Institute on Disability (WID) is gathering information on knowledge and resources related to benefits and employment for Ohioans with an interest in disability employment. [This survey can be found here](#) and should only take a few minutes to complete. Additionally, DODD and the WID will be hosting a webinar next week, reintroducing the 'DB101' website and walking attendees through the different resources to help people with disabilities find employment and navigate the various benefit cliffs and thresholds that may arise from earning competitive wages in the community. [You can learn more and register for the webinar here.](#) Reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.

**OOD Needs Assessment:** As a condition of their federal funding, OOD produces a Comprehensive Statewide Needs Assessment (CSNA) to assess the service needs of individuals with disabilities. The 2024 CSNA includes a focus on provider capacity to serve individuals with disabilities. Your responses to this survey will help OOD evaluate its ability to meet the service needs of Ohioans with disabilities and further inform the fee schedule development for future services. [The survey is brief \(10-15 minutes\) and can be accessed at this link.](#)

**DD Budget Coalition Data Collection Efforts:** The group of DD associations developed a short survey for agency providers to share their experience with the state budget increases' impact on services. The survey will be distributed quarterly to monitor the budget's impact overtime and to help develop the next budget ask. Only one representative from your agency should complete the survey by 3/1/24. [You can take the survey here.](#) Any questions can be directed to [Scott](#) or [Christine](#).

**Committees:** This week OPRA held both our ICF and Residential Waiver committee meetings. Thank you to all who turned out for both meetings. OPRA hosted Angel Morgan from the DODD Office of Compliance who provided an overview on the compliance process and the top citations from 2023. Additionally, we had discussion around potential changes in DNR protocols as well as updates on House Bill 236. Both of these meetings were recorded and are available on the website.



# In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

**Memo Monday:** Click here to read this week's [Memo Monday](#), which includes Guidance Regarding Personal Accounts when Authorizing Services, Re-Posting of RFP for Latino Family Outreach, info on the July 2024 Waiver Rate Increase and Outcome Tracking System reporting dates.

**Training Feedback:** OPRA is working on our training catalog and resources for 2024 and beyond. We are seeking feedback from members on what training resources would be especially needed, relevant and useful for you and your agency. Specifically, we are seeking feedback on what trainings, platforms or resources members use to complete the trainings that are 'provided or arranged by the agency' (30 Day, Annual) and/or any specific training topics/resources you'd like to see OPRA offer. Feedback on any of these items, or about training needs more generally can be sent to [Scott](#).

**Registration is Live:** Join us for the 2024 [OPRA Spring Conference: A Business Retreat!](#)

Gather with fellow members at the newly renovated and stunning Toledo Glass City Center. Explore how our collective strength enables us to adapt, thrive, and lead in an ever-changing landscape.

## Why Attend?

- Tailored for leadership teams.
- Enhance your business practices for long-term sustainability.
- Prepare for the future challenges and opportunities ahead...and much more!



Maximize your savings with our group discount: register three or more attendees for a discounted rate! Note: All registrations must be completed together. Can't wait to see you all in Toledo!

## Upcoming Events

2/26: DODD-Emergency Preparedness and the April 2024 Total Eclipse

2/26: OPRA ADS Quality Pilot Meeting (Email [Scott](#) for link if needed)

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

## News and Resources

"Remembering Dr. Terrence M. Ryan"

"Georgia study counts Americans born in the '80s and '90s living with an intellectual disability"

"Starbucks opens first cafe designed for disabled guests"

"DeWine, Department of Aging launch Ohio Nursing Home Quality Navigator "

