



Legislative Update March 18, 2015

The House Finance Subcommittee on Health and Human Services continued hearings yesterday on the developmental disabilities portions of the two year State Budget (HB 64).

Over 100 people testified throughout the day and into the early morning hours. The overwhelming number of those testifying spoke in opposition to one or more specific provisions in the bill as introduced. The primary concerns involved

- 1) Punitive measures in the community ICFs
- 2) Phase out of independent providers
- 3) Closure of the two state run developmental center (Youngstown and Montgomery)

In addition, some present spoke against closing county board workshops even though that is not technically a part of the budget. Attached is testimony from OPRA President Mark Davis and stories from the Columbus Dispatch.

Subcommittee testimony continues today and tomorrow after the meeting of the Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee. Should start at approximately 10:30-11:00 a.m. Mark Davis, Pete VanRunkle (Ohio Health Care) and Michael Rench (Values and Faith Alliance) have been asked to come back tomorrow for additional questions on the ICF provisions. Additionally, Mike Kirkman of Disability Rights Ohio is scheduled for a return appearance.

For additional information and articles click below;

[OPRA President Mark Davis Testimony HHS Subcommittee March 17, 2015](#)

[Disabled plead for 'just world'](#)

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2015/03/10/nowhere-to-turn.html>

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