

OPRA FRIDAY FIVE

News, Resources and Events for OPRA Members

JUNE 7, 2024



Thank you to everyone who participated in last week's OPRA PAC Golf Outing. It was a beautiful day in Urbana and we are so appreciative of everyone who supported the PAC and joined us for the event. With this busy legislative session and a state budget around the corner, our PAC is more important than ever. The PAC is critical for OPRA's ability to advocate on the issues most important to our members. Thank you all again!

Overtime Rule: Multiple plaintiffs filed a complaint in a federal court in Texas to vacate and set aside the US Department of Labor's recent Overtime Rule. Plaintiffs specifically selected this court as it is the same court that issued an injunction on the 2016 proposed rule and hope will rule in a similar manner. The plaintiffs are seeking expedited review of the case given the first set of increases are set to take effect on July 1, 2024. [You can read more information about the lawsuit here.](#)

Christine gave a presentation on various federal regulations released in the spring. [You can review the presentation here.](#) Given the uncertainty of the legal challenges, we advise members to still prepare for the July 1st Phase 1 implementation.

GES RFP: Due to an error in the original RFP, DODD has revised and reposted the ['Building Capacity for Group Employment' RFPs](#). The provider applications are now due on June 20th at 12pm. Please reach out to [Scott](#) with any questions.

Legislative Update

Never Alone Act (HB 236)- This week the House Health Provider Services Committee voted to Send HB 236 to the House floor for a full vote. The bill requires licensed residential facilities to allow residents to designate advocates who can have access to the resident with relatively few restrictions. The bill was amended to remove a resident and advocate's private right of action for damages but kept injunctive relief available for residents and advocates. [You can read the amended language and LSC's analysis here.](#)

Lauren's Law (HB 465)- An amended version of HB 465 will likely be introduced in the House Families and Aging Committee next week. Changes should include- allowing voluntary use of cameras in licensed waiver settings while maintaining that it is mandatory upon request in ICFs, removes the enhanced waiver service for paid family caregivers, and makes changes to the resident consent process and when providers can terminate services. The amended bill has not been posted to the Committee's website yet.



In Case You Missed It...

Additional Updates From The OPRA Team and System Partners

Memo Monday: Click here to read this week's DODD [Memo Monday](#), which includes info on the Wage Verification survey deadline, EVV changes discussed on our call, the MITC to FI transition, Behavior Support workshops and a number of training opportunities.

CESP Data Study: OPRA is collecting data on the efficacy/impact of the CESP credential. The data collection tool and instructions can be found on the [website here](#). Please reach out to Scott with any questions and/or if you are interested in being part of a qualitative data discussion regarding your experience with the credential.

Station MD Survey: Our friends at Nisonger are encouraging those of you who have experience with StationMD to participate in a survey. They are trying to increase participation in their study from provider agency or ICF staff who have experience with StationMD (DSPs, nurses, Directors, etc.). Provider agency staff can take a [survey and participate in a focus group by clicking here](#).



Tarrytown Expocare is inviting OPRA members to a full-day of complimentary training on June 11th. The 2024 I/DD/BH Symposium will be held from 10-4 at the Westerville/Polaris Renaissance hotel. [To view the agenda, see additional details, and to register, please click here.](#)

Upcoming Events

6/11: Tarrytown ExpoCare Symposium

6/19: OPRA Residential Waiver Committee

6/19: OPRA ICF Committee

Click here for a full list of upcoming DODD training events

News & Resources

"ID/DD Providers Facing Lack of Rate Increases, Workforce Shortage"

"Republicans Launch Effort to Block New DOL Overtime Pay Rule"

"Uber Launching Service To Help Caregivers"

"Senators Introduce Resolution Against CMS Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities"

