

Disability Rights Day 2023 Legislative Information

Employment

Modifies Ticket to Work/Competitive Integrated Employment, HB 970 Representative Melanie Stinnett

- creates the “Missouri Employment First Act” which requires all state agencies providing employment services or services and supports to individuals with disabilities to implement an employment first policy by considering competitive, integrated employment as the first priority and preferred outcome
- The bill does not take away supported or sheltered employment when those are the most appropriate options.
- changes the income threshold for eligibility to 250% of the federal poverty level and removes the requirement that it be gross income
- changes the income disregards to the first \$50,000 of earned income of a spouse

Missouri Earned Family and Medical Leave Act, HB 1126, HB 1255, SB 548

- These bills all create an earned family and medical leave program in Missouri The program will provide up to 6 weeks of wage replacement benefits to employees who take time off work for family or medical leave. The allowable uses of the leave include taking care of your serious health condition or taking care of someone with a serious health condition.

Mental Health Leave, HB 1070 Michael Johnson

- This bill allows employees to take unpaid leave for mental health appointments.

Transportation

Appropriations Bill, HB 4 Representative Cody Smith

- This bill appropriates money for the Department of Revenue and the Department of Transportation. Funding for transportation programs is part of this.

State Budget/Funding for Caregivers

Appropriations Bill, HB 10 Representative Cody Smith

- This bill appropriates money for the Department of Mental Health and the Department of Health and Senior Services.

Appropriations Bill, HB 2 Representative Cody Smith

- This bill appropriates money for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This includes funding for centers for independent living.

Disability Rights Day 2023 Hearing Information

Committee: Elementary and Secondary Education

Chair: Representative Brad Pollitt

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023 - **Upcoming**

Time: 8:00 A.M.

Location: House Hearing Room 7_(Capitol Basement)

Legislation: HB 106, Representative Jerome Barnes

This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to develop a parent resource to be used for monitoring and tracking expressive and receptive language acquisition and developmental stages toward American Sign Language (ASL) and English literacy of children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Committee: Progress and Development

Chair: Senator Lauren Arthur

Date: Wednesday, March 1

Time: 12:00 PM

Location: Senate Committee Room 1 (Capitol 1st floor)

Legislation: SB 313, Senator Angela Mosely

Establishes a "Restaurant Meals Program" as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

This act requires the Department of Social Services to establish a "Restaurant Meals Program" as part of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Under this program, households containing certain elderly, disabled, or homeless individuals shall have the option, in accordance with federal law, to redeem their SNAP benefits at private establishments that contract with the Department to offer meals, including hot food and meals intended for immediate consumption, for eligible persons at concessional prices.