



Nothing About Us Without Us

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Who is working on this issue?

Nothing About Us Without Us Coalition, including
Self Advocates in Leadership;
The Arc of King County; Disability Rights
Washington; People First of Washington;
Allies in Advocacy

Advocacy areas

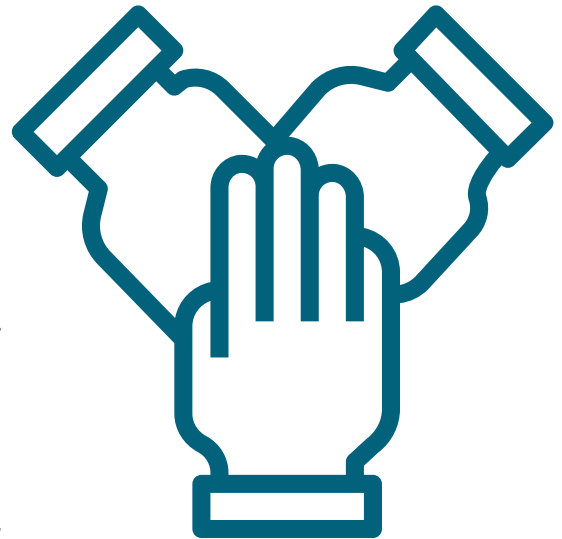
Civil rights;
community services/supports

What is the problem you are trying to solve?

- Autonomy and rights are being slowly stripped away, and supports that should help aren't doing what they need to do.

People with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) should be able to make decisions about how they want to live. But many rely on state services, and rules for those services often dictate what their lives will be like.

These rules are often made without first checking with people who will be most affected. Officials making decisions don't always fully appreciate or understand how their decisions impact people's lives.



What is your proposed solution?

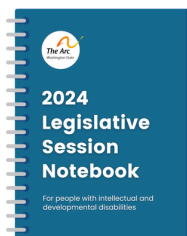
- State councils, committees, and work groups drafting rules, legislation, or recommendations should include members with direct lived experience. People with disabilities should be in the room when matters that affect them are being discussed.



Why is this a good solution?

- **It promotes autonomy.** People with disabilities deserve the same authority to make decisions as the rest of us.
- **It encourages thoughtful ideas** for ways to improve services and reduce restrictions on people with disabilities.
- **It creates space** for people share and hear each other. Experts, scientists, policy makers and people using services all learn from each other.
- **It offers clarity.** People participating in the groups will be able to better understand what is changing or being proposed, and why. They can then help other advocates understand.

What is the fiscal impact?	Is there a bill number?	Is there a legislator working on this issue?
<p>Uncertain. Agencies must already make their meetings and materials accessible. Some changes have already been made allowing agencies to offer stipends so community members can participate in group</p>	<p>Yes. <u>HB 1541</u> – establishing the nothing about us without us act, and its companion bill in the Senate, <u>SB 5616</u></p>	<p>House sponsor: Rep. Darya Farivar, 46th LD (Seattle) darya.farivar@leg.wa.gov</p> <p>Senate sponsor: Sen. Javier Valdez, 46th LD (Seattle) javier.valdez@leg.wa.gov</p>



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