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**February 28, 2024**

**Topic:** [What Can You Do Now?](#)

**Summary:** The end of the legislative session is coming quickly, and we ask you to keep the needs of people with developmental disabilities and their families in mind when you are making decisions.

People with I/DD and their families need support across their lifespans. From peer support when they have a new diagnosis, access to Early Supports for Infants and Toddlers, respite so caregivers can sustain themselves, and assessable childcare so they can go to work. They need schools to be inclusive and designed to meet the needs of all students. As individuals leave school, they need meaningful things to do, including employment, and access to recreational and learning activities in the community with appropriate support. Access to affordable, accessible housing is critical, and senior families need help planning for the future, navigating, and accessing support to live in housing.

**What you Can Do:**

1. **Support Services:** Prioritize funding for a comprehensive range of supports and services for individuals with I/DD, ensuring coverage across their lifespan.
2. **Education:** Ensure that school is inclusive, accessible, and equitable for children with disabilities.
3. **Workforce Development:** Invest in increased rates, training, and professional development to help build a robust workforce that delivers quality care and support.
4. **Housing:** Allocate resources to address the critical need for safe, affordable, and accessible housing

*Together, let's build a community where every individual, regardless of ability, can thrive and contribute.*