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**THE IL EDGE**  
 SPRING 2019 - WVSILC - PO Box 625 - Institute, WV 25112

# SILC UPDATE

The 2019 legislative session has ended with a call for a special session from Governor Justice to address “improving, modifying, and making efficiencies to the state’s public education system and employee compensation”. Legislators have been holding public forums around the state to gather information but have not yet convened the special session – so we will have to wait to see what’s next. As for the regular session, we followed several bills and many of those passed both houses – though three were subject to “technical vetoes” by the Governor (along with eleven other bills), with the hope that corrections can be made and the bills can be passed as corrected during the special session. A legislative wrap-up is provided on page 8 regarding the bills we followed. The Legislative Interim Committee meeting dates can be found on page 2 – be sure to follow what is going on AND be sure to talk to your legislators while they are home for the summer. If you are not sure who your legislators are, go to [www.wvlegislature.gov](http://www.wvlegislature.gov) or call toll free 1-877-565-3447 and someone will help you figure it out.

Due to delays on the new federal template for the State Plan for Independent Living (SPIL), the current SPIL, for fiscal year 2017-2019, may either be extended for one year or amended/rewritten for one year. The West Virginia SPIL will be extended, through a technical amendment, for one year through fiscal year 2020. A new SPIL will be written for fiscal years 2021-2023 and the SPIL Team will begin drafting it this fall, using public input gathered statewide last fall. We will keep you updated on this, so watch our website and newsletter for update and opportunities .

**MISSION**

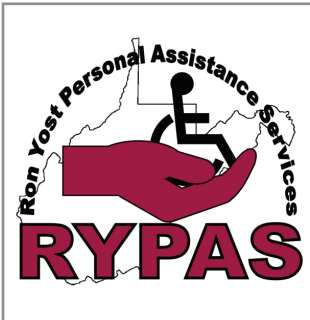
*“To ensure persons who have disabilities have access to community-based resources that promote personal choice and facilitate the achievement of their independent living goals.”*

From the desk of:



Ann McDaniel  
 Executive Director

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### WV Centers for Independent Living

**Appalachian CIL**  
 Elk Office Center  
 4710 Chimney Dr.  
 Charleston, WV 25302  
 1-800-642-3003

**Northern WV CIL**  
 601-603 East Brockway Ave.  
 Suite A & B  
 Morgantown, WV 26505  
 1-800-834-6408

109 Randolph Ave.  
 Elkins, WV 26241  
 304-636-0143

**Mountain State CIL**  
 821 Fourth Ave.  
 Huntington, WV 25701  
 1-866-687-8245

329 Prince St.  
 Beckley, WV 25801  
 304-255-0122





## 2019 Interim Committee Dates

- April 29-30
- May 20-21
- June 17-18
- July 22-23
- September 23-24
- November 18-19
- December 16-17

For more information on the 2019 Interim Committee Dates, visit the WV State Legislature website at: <http://www.legis.state.wv.gov>.

## WVSILC Solicits Nominations for the RYPAS Board

The West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council is (SILC) is recruiting individuals with disabilities to fill vacancies on the Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Board. The Council is mandated by §18-10L of the West Virginia Code to maintain a standing committee to serve as the consumer-controlled board to direct the WV Division of Rehabilitation Services in the implementation of this program. The Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Program (RYPAS) is a State funded program provided through the WV Division of Rehabilitation Services as a part of the State Plan for Independent Living.

Legislatively, the board is required to meet at least quarterly, but usually meets monthly to review applications for eligibility and to address policy and other governing issues for the program. Board members will be reimbursed for allowable expenses incurred as a result of active participation on the board. Individuals nominated must have a severe disability (a physical, mental, or sensory impairment that affects one or more major life activity), be dedicated to the development and growth of the Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Program (RYPAS), and be committed to attending meetings and actively participate on the board.



Source: [wvable.com](http://wvable.com)

West Virginia Achieving a Better Life Experience program, better known as WVABLE, allows qualified individuals with disabilities to save and invest without jeopardizing their eligibility for federal benefits such as SSI or Medicaid. WVABLE accounts can be spent on qualified disability expenses at any time. Account set up and enrollment is all online at [www.wvable.com](http://www.wvable.com).

### Benefits of WVABLE

#### *Tax-Free Earnings*

The earnings you make on your STABLE Account are not subject to federal or West Virginia state income taxes, so long as you spend the earnings on Qualified Disability Expenses.

#### *Keep Your Public Benefits*

One of the primary reasons that the federal ABLE Act was passed was to protect individuals with disabilities from losing certain benefits such as SSI or Medicaid.

With the exception of some special SSI rules (see below), your STABLE Account funds do not count against you for purposes of determining your eligibility for means-tested federal benefits programs. For example, if you have \$5,000 in your STABLE Account, that \$5,000 does not count as an asset when determining your eligibility for SSI or Medicaid.

In addition, your STABLE Account will not affect your eligibility for state-based means-tested benefits programs offered by West Virginia.

#### *No Impact on Medicaid Benefits*

The money in your STABLE Account will not affect your eligibility for Medicaid benefits. For more information, please see Medicaid's recent guidance on STABLE Accounts here.

#### *Limited Impact on SSI Benefits*

Using a STABLE Account will not make you ineligible for SSI. If, however, you have more than \$100,000 in your account, your SSI benefits may be suspended.

Here's how this will work: any STABLE Account funds over \$100,000 are treated as a countable resource for purposes of determining your SSI benefits. For example, if you have \$101,000 in your STABLE Account, the Social Security Administration will ignore the first \$100,000, but will count the next \$1,000 as your resource. The good news is that if your STABLE Account balance causes you to exceed the normal SSI resource limits, your SSI benefits will be merely suspended - you will not become ineligible for SSI. Once your account balance drops, you can notify SSA to have your SSI benefits resume.

## Instruction in Self-Advocacy

Northern WV Center for Independent Living in partnership with The WV Division of Rehabilitation Services will be hosting an Instruction in Self-Advocacy (ISA) Program in the months of June-August of 2019.

This program will be completed in four-day periods, from 9am-3pm and held for consumers in and around the areas of Monongalia County, Randolph County, and Gilmer County.

This ISA program will be provided as a Pre-Employment Transition Service. NWVCIL will provide high quality instruction in self-advocacy as well as experiential opportunities for students to practice self-advocacy. Students who participate in these programs will gain the skills necessary to be confident and self-directed self-advocates. Qualifying consumer participants, students age 14-21, may earn up to \$15.00 per hour of participation.

For more information please contact Christine Wilcox, Transition Advocate at NWVCIL (304) 296-6091 or email [cwilcox@nwvcil.org](mailto:cwilcox@nwvcil.org). ■

*(RYPAS continued from p2)*

You may wish to nominate yourself or another person (with their permission) for membership on this board. More information about RYPAS is available at <http://www.wvsilc.org/rypas.htm>. The form to nominate RYPAS Board members is on page 8 and available at <http://www.wvsilc.org/docs/RYPAS%20Board%20Nomination%20Form.pdf>. Learn more about WVSILC and its work at <http://www.wvsilc.org>.



Please feel free to share with as many individuals as you wish. If you have questions or need further information or assistance, please contact WVSILC at (304) 766-4624 or toll free at (855) 855-9743 (voice/TDD). ■



Ron Yost sustained a spinal cord injury when he was 20 that resulted in quadriplegia. He was an active advocate for people with disabilities, and he fully understood how much difference having an attendant or personal assistant can make in the level of independence and quality of life for a person with a disability.

He helped develop the long-term attendant care program for people who work, which is administered by the West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services. He also was involved in the initial discussions to create a program to provide personal assistance for people who could not get services through any existing program.

Although Ron died before the program was established in 1999, it was named in his honor by the legislators who sponsored the bill. Ron had a great impact on the disability community of Huntington and throughout West Virginia.

## Tee Shirts For Sale

FSN tee shirts are now available for sale at the cost of \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. The cost of shipping is \$3 if you need the shirt to be mailed to you. The shirts are available in 3XL, 2XL, XL, M, L and S. They are red and have the FSN logo in the center of the shirt. You can go online and order at [www.fairshake.org](http://www.fairshake.org). ■





## Failure in life

By Emily Robinson

Is failing a bad thing? Is there a reason for it? I like to think that failing is not a bad thing, but actually a good thing that helps us learn. We have to fail sometimes to learn some of the most important life lessons. Failing is how we learn what we are doing wrong. Every time we fail, we learn what not to do next time, and how to do it better.

You know the saying “you learn something new every day,” well research shows that you learn 105,000 words or 23 words per second in half a day (12 awake hours). We don't even realize that we are learning this much information.

Failing comes as a part of life, and I wish more people would let us fail. It is okay to fail sometimes. So many people try to keep us from failing because they are afraid that it hurts us. They don't seem to realize that we need to fail in order to succeed. Not allowing us to fail is a great disservice to our growth and understanding. Just giving us all the answers DOES NOT HELP. We need to know what achieving something after failure, trials, and tribulations feels like.

So, let us fail, it has a purpose. It won't break us. It's how we learn. Some of the things we learn through failure are very powerful life lessons that can only be taught by failing.

Failure teaches us through our experience, knowledge, resilience, growth, value, and hard work. Without failure we are less capable of compassion, empathy, kindness, and great achievement. Once you understand that failure is meant to serve us rather than hinder us, you'll be able to open up to failure more. There is a lot to be learned from failure and I feel that we as a society (youth) are not given the opportunity to fail, so all the life lessons we could learn, never happen.

In conclusion, failing is not a bad thing, but I argue it is good. We can learn from our mistakes. There is a reason for failure in life; it teaches some of the most vital life lessons. LET US FAIL, it won't break us. I am closing with a quote by Morihei Ueshiba “failure is the key to success; each mistake teaches us something.” ■

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## Etiquette of Consumer Involvement: Ten Guidelines for Prudent Advocacy

Source: <https://scholarworks.umn.edu/>

The types of advocacy projects your group chooses will contribute to its reputation in the community. Since your group is likely to address many issues over a long time, its reputation is key to success. The following guidelines have emerged as characteristic of many successful advocacy organizations. This list is by no means complete, but it may serve as a basis for healthy community involvement.

### Accentuate the Positive

Respond to at least as many positive events as negative ones by complimenting positive actions and honoring key figures. Keeping positive is easy, and it will win you friends and build your reputation as being a reasonable group. Constructive involvement can serve as the basis for many successful projects.

### Begin by Assuming the Best of Others

Challenging the motivations of others often produces needless resistance. Assuming a negative act is the result of ignorance or inattention (maybe even your own) creates opportunities to teach and learn. A corollary is to give credit freely for beneficial decisions. Acknowledging the wisdom and vision of others who support you is likely to increase their commitment to your goals.

### Do Your Homework and Document Everything

If your group takes a position or initiates an action based on an error in fact, you stand a good chance of being very embarrassed. Such embarrassment can damage a hard-won reputation. A significant error in fact can also direct attention away from your issues, no matter how important they are. Thus, the first step in developing a position or a project should always involve confirming your information. In addition, you should document everything you do as well as what others tell you. Documentation protects you from denials and countercharges.

### Take the High Ground

When you take a position on an issue, always highlight the general values or principles you are promoting, such as independence, equal access, well being, dignity, or safety. The importance of these values and principles is hard for anyone to deny. They serve as a firm basis for agreement on general community goals. They help prevent personality conflicts stemming from disagreement over details of solutions. And finally, positive values lend an air of eloquence to your position that will impress almost anyone.

### Take a Broad Perspective

Although a consumer group is usually too small to act on every relevant issue, it is wise to spread your attention across different types over time. Various issues are likely to share many similarities. A group that focuses only on transportation issues will have a narrow appeal to members and the public. Addressing issues of accessibility broadens appeal and generates more opportunities for involvement. It probably increases opportunities for success, too.

### Plan Many Small Successes

Groups are more likely to grow and maintain themselves over time if they have many successes. One way to facilitate success and growth is to have

(See *Advocacy* p5)



The Community Living Services Program at Mountain State Centers for Independent Living assists individuals with disabilities to function more independently in their homes and communities by providing needed assistive technology. This program is funded by both state and federal dollars. Due to under funding, people are currently waiting at least four years to be served.

The Beckley office holds several fundraisers during the year to serve those who have been on the list for years.

Ms. S. of Raleigh county has been waiting for hearing aids for more than four years. Through the hearing aid assistance organization called Hear Now, qualifying individuals can receive hearing aids for \$250, the cost of submitting an application. Hear Now requires a completed application in order to consider a donation of hearing aids. Mountain State Centers for Independent Living we will assist Ms. S. with completing the application and other paperwork for the doctor's visit and hearing test. Once the required medical visits and tests are completed, which are usually paid for by Medicaid, the application will be sent to Hear Now and Ms. S. will receive hearing aids.

We raised enough money to purchase the hearing aids for Ms. S. and a little bit more for the next person on the list. More on that later. And a big attagirl to our own Kelly Elkins for making this fundraiser happen. ■

*(Advocacy continued from p4)*

many small projects rather than one major one. Many successful efforts over time will build the competency and reputation of the group so that it can take advantage of major opportunities more effectively.

### **Begin with the Simplest Step**

If an issue is personally important, members tend to want to make an immediate, strong response. This approach can seriously restrict your options and those of others who support you. Radical actions should usually be saved as options until other, less intrusive alternatives have been tried without success.

### **Be Prepared to Follow Through**

Once you have begun to address an issue, be prepared to follow through. This means you should be ready to compliment responsiveness, attend meetings, compromise, or escalate your approach if their is no response. Some situations may become intolerable, and you should not seek to avoid conflict at all cost. If you don't follow through on your current efforts, others will be likely to ignore your future efforts.

### **Be Reasonable**

Developing a quality community requires cooperation and compromise between groups with competing interests. Public support is almost always on the side of those who are most reasonable in their approach and demands. Action that offends interested parties--especially the public--decreases the chances for cooperation and success.

### **Prepare to Accept Success**

Success might best be viewed a progress toward an ideal rather than capitulation by the enemy. You should advocate for your own proposals, but you should also keep an open mind for alternatives and compromises offered by others. They, too, have legitimate goals and need some control over their situation. Moreover, their knowledge of the workings of systems you may not understand, might lead to greater success than you imagined. A mutually acceptable solution to a problem is a success for everyone. Your willingness to help others win will contribute to a strong group reputation. ■

## **MOUNTAIN STATE CENTERS FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING**

### **Kelly Elkins Named Beckley Human Rights Commission Co-Chair**



Frank Williams, Chair of the Human Rights Commission resigned recently due to health issues.

The Human Rights Commission voted on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 during their monthly meeting at City Council Chambers for his position to be replaced by Co-Chair Commissioner Danielle Stewart.

Kelly Elkins of our Beckley Mountain State Centers for Independent Living office was later named Co-Chair of the Human Rights Commission.

Commissioner Marie Lindsay of Bechtel nominated Kelly Elkins as Co-Chair Commissioner. Both Stewart and Elkins were voted in unanimously. ■



## Surgeon Returns to Work After Spinal Injury

Source: [By Aria Janel | March 28, 2019](#)

OWENSBORO, KY (WFIE) - An Owensboro surgeon made a surprise return to work on Thursday.

In August 2018, Dr. Jim Tidwell suffered a spinal cord injury after an incident on a slip-n-slide caused him to land on his head at the bottom of a pond.

After seven months of recovery, Dr. Tidwell returned to the place he loves, to surprise his co-workers.

He's a man known for his talents in the operating room and his positive attitude all around.

Even though he will not be operating at Owensboro Health, he will still be saving lives as the Vice President for Population Health.

Dr. Tidwell begins his new leadership role on Monday. ■



## Montana State Capitol installs first electric wheelchair charging station

Source: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/>

HELENA – The State Capitol implemented its first electric wheelchair charging station. Governor Steve Bullock spoke at the ribbon cutting ceremony, discussing the future of disability advocacy in Helena and the steps being taken to lead the initiative forward.

Bullock was joined by the State Disability Rights Coordinator, John Pavao, as well as the Department of Administration Director, John Lewis.

“It was really a team effort, collaboration of team divisions within the department of administration collaboration with legislative branch, legislative services and as far as identifying the location, really when you look at the unit and the benefit and how it’s going to benefit people with disabilities, the benefits far exceed the cost,” said Pavao.

Montana Independent Living Project Advocacy Coordinator, Joel Peden, was given the honor of cutting the ribbon during the ceremony.

“Even today, I’m down three lights already...on a typical day, I would have to be worried about having to get home early and get plugged-in, but now, I can be here and participate and do my job as an advocate and not have to worry about stranded some place,” Peden stated.

The wheelchair charger cost \$450 and Capitol staff are looking at other accessibility improvements.

“Today is another step in the inclusion of people with disabilities and breaking down potential barriers that allow somebody to be apart of the process that happens here every other year for four months,” said Peden.



Peden continued, “For visitors at the Capitol that are here to see this beautiful building now they don’t have the extra stress of ‘how much power do I have left in my chair?’ And ‘can I stay and see more or do I have to go home to recharge the wheelchair.’”

The wheelchair charger is located in the basement of the Capitol. Watch the video [here](#). ■



(WVABLE continued from p2)

Money you withdraw and use for housing expenses may also affect your SSI benefits if you do not spend the money right away. To avoid any impact to your SSI benefits, be sure to spend housing money within the same calendar month that you withdraw the money. For example, if you withdraw \$800 from your STABLE Account on June 3rd for rent, you must pay that money to your landlord by June 30th. As long as you do not hold housing funds over from one calendar month to the next, the funds will not affect your SSI benefits. For more information on how the Social Security Administration will treat STABLE Accounts, see their guidance here.

### STABLE Card

The STABLE Card is a loadable prepaid debit card that is available to everyone with a STABLE Account. The STABLE Card does not pull money directly out of your STABLE Account. Instead, you get to choose a specific amount of money to load onto your card. This way, you can better control budgets and plan for your Qualified Disability Expenses. If you are the Authorized Legal Representative for an individual with a disability, you will be issued the primary card, but can also obtain a companion card for the beneficiary. The STABLE Card's discrete loading feature allows you to limit how much money your loved one can access at any given time.

Only STABLE Account funds can be loaded onto your STABLE Card, to avoid commingling STABLE money with non-STABLE money. This allows for easier reporting of your withdrawals and expenditures.

You can use your STABLE Card to spend money anywhere Visa is accepted. Although it is a loadable card, it works just like a regular debit card. You will still be able to set up a STABLE Card online account to view your spending history.



### Education and Outreach

WVABLE is available to present to organizations or groups in person throughout the state. We can also be on site to assist with online enrollment at the conclusion of our presentation. If you would like to schedule a presentation or any type of outreach event, please contact 304-340-5050 or [wvable@wvsto.com](mailto:wvable@wvsto.com).

### Tell Your Story

If you already have an ABLE account and would like to share your story, you may contact Kristi Pritt at the WVABLE Savings Program at:

322 70th St SE  
Charleston, WV 25304  
304.340.2702  
[kristi.pritt@wvsto.com](mailto:kristi.pritt@wvsto.com) ■

## Motorized Pool Float

Source: [www.delish.com](http://www.delish.com)



PoolCandy has given us a motorized pool float that'll zip you to exactly where you want to be in the pool—with the sunlight shining down on you. This lounge inflates in minutes and has two attachable motors that run on batteries and are easy to assemble. The video below reveals just how easy it is to put together—and shows just how fun this float really is.

The two video game-like controllers at either hand allow you 360-degree motion in the water, and the actual motors have a grill on them, as an extra safety precaution (they're basically two fans). The float itself is supersized, so it's extra cushy and can even support up to 300 pounds.

The pool isn't the only place this float can go—PoolCandy says that the motorized float works well even in bigger bodies of water, like lakes. ■

[Watch Video](#)  
[Buy It Here](#)





Once again the Fair Shake Network will be the beneficiaries of the V-100 Spring Yard Sale

This year's Yard Sale will be held Saturday, May 11th, at Laidley Field in Charleston. The sale will be from 8AM – 1PM with set up on the lot beginning by 6:15 AM. (Rain date, if needed, Fall 2019.)

Fair Shake will also have a table at the event and will be selling cold drinks. The United Way will be selling baked goods.

How can you help?

- Volunteer to work on that day.
- Donate: Drinks, Coolers, or ice.
- Buy a space and sell your items.

If you plan to volunteer and/or donate, please call the Fair Shake Network office at: 304.766.0061.

For more information and pricing on spaces visit the V100 website at: <http://v100.fm/steve-and-jennys-v100-yard-sale-may-11/>. ■



## Legislative Wrap-Up

By Ann McDaniel

A total of 1,823 bills (681 Senate and 1,142 House) were introduced during the 60-day legislative session – we followed 165 (55 Senate and 110 House). The following are bills we followed that passed both the House of Delegates and the Senate – bills vetoed by Governor Justice are marked. The vetoed bills will die if not corrected and passed again during special session.

**SB 1** – Increasing access to career education and workforce training – effective June 5, 2019

**SB 240** – Repealing certain legislative rules no longer authorized or are obsolete – effective February 11, 2019

**SB 491** – Extending effective date for voter registration in conjunction with driver licensing – effective March 6, 2019

**SB 605** – Permitting Secondary Schools Athletic Commission discipline schools for not following protocol for concussions and head injuries – effective June 6, 2019

**SB 632** – Improving student safety (provides cameras be installed in self-contained special education classrooms upon written request) – effective July 1, 2019

**SB 677** – Supplemental appropriation to Division of Health and Division of Human Services – effective March 9, 2019

**HB 2001** – Relating to exempting social security benefits from personal income tax (includes SSI & SSDI – applies to state income tax) – effective June 7, 2019

**HB 2020** – Budget Bill, making appropriations of public money out of the treasury in accordance with section fifty-one, article six of the Constitution – effective March 8, 2019

**HB 2036** – Permitting vehicles displaying disabled veterans' special registration plates to park in places where persons with mobility impairments may park – effective May 26, 2019

**HB 2079** – Removing certain limitations on medical cannabis grower, processor and dispensary licenses – **TECHNICAL VETO BY GOVERNOR**

**HB 2405** – Imposing a healthcare related provider tax on certain health care organizations (managed care organization MCO provider tax) – effective June 4, 2019

**HB 2459** – Exercising authority to exempt individuals domiciled within the state from certain restrictions contained in federal law – effective May 21, 2019

**HB 2515** – Exempting the sale and installation of mobility enhancing equipment (in vehicles) from the sales and use tax (durable medical equipment is already exempt) – effective June 4, 2019



# Trump Approves Extension Of Program Helping People Leave Institutions

by [Michelle Diamant](#)

New funding will ensure that a program that moves people with disabilities from institutions to the community can stick around while advocates push for a longer-term solution.

President Donald Trump signed legislation late last week allocating an additional \$20 million to Money Follows the Person. Through the program, states can access Medicaid funding to pay for employment supports, housing and other services so that people with disabilities can transition from nursing homes and other institutional facilities to homes in the community.

Money Follows the Person officially expired in 2016 and by the end of last year, every state was running out of whatever funds remained. Advocates have been pushing for a renewal of the program through a bill known as the EMPOWER Care Act. But, when that failed to materialize, lawmakers approved a \$112 million, three-month extension earlier this year.

Now, with prospects for a long-term solution still unrealized, Congress approved the latest round of funding in order to tide over the program through the end of the government's fiscal year in September, albeit in a reduced fashion.

Nicole Jorwic, senior director of public policy at The Arc, said she "considers it a victory when Congress decides to spend a large amount of money on a program that affects so many people with disabilities." Nonetheless, she indicated that the repeated incremental funding is taking its toll.

"We do know that states have slowed their transitions down," Jorwic said. "The ones that were already in the pipeline are moving forward but because the funding is only going to be through September, that doesn't give the states a lot of solid ground to start new transitions."

Since 2006, states have received about \$3.7 billion to help over 88,000 people transition out of institutions through the Money Follows the Person program.



Shayne Nagel, right, comforts her daughter, Erin, who has autism. Erin lived at a state-run residential center for two years before moving into a triplex in the community with assistance from Washington state's Money Follows the Person program. (Bettina Hansen/

Jorwic said her group is pushing its members to keep advocating for the EMPOWER Care Act, H.R.1342, which would tag \$450 million annually for the program through 2023. ■

(Wrap-Up continued from p8)

**HB 2531** – Permitting trained nurses to provide mental health services in a medication-assisted treatment program – TECHNICAL VETO BY GOVERNOR-

**HB 2538** – Providing banking services for medical cannabis – effective March 5, 2019

**HB 2607** – Relating to the licensure of nursing homes – effective May 21, 2019

**HB 2618** – Including undue influence as a factor in the definition of financial exploitation of an elderly person or protected person – effective June 7, 2019

**HB 2674** – Creating a student loan repayment program for a mental health provider – TECHNICAL VETO BY GOVERNOR

**HB 2715** – Relating to Class Q special hunting permit for disabled persons – effective June 6, 2019

**HB 2816** – Removing the terms "hearing impaired", "hearing impairment", and "deaf mute" from the West Virginia Code and substituting terms (substitutes "deaf or hard of hearing" – effective June 6, 2019

**HB 2848** – Relating to West Virginia ABLE Act (expands who may manage the account and makes federal law apply so when it changes state code doesn't have to be changed) – effective May 3, 2019

**HB 3132** – Relating to exempting providers that serve no more than 30 patients with office-based medication-assisted treatment – effective June 6, 2019

For more information on these or other bills visit [www.wvlegislature.gov](http://www.wvlegislature.gov) and click on Bill Status. If you select the 2019 regular session and input the bill number you will find all the action taken on the bill as well as a link to the bill text. ■





**RON YOST PERSONAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES**

**Nomination for Governing Board**

The Ron Yost Personal Assistance Services Act, signed by the Governor on April 1, 1999, chapter eighteen, article 10L of the West Virginia Code, requires the West Virginia Statewide Independent Living Council to establish a standing committee to function as the consumer board to direct the Division of Rehabilitation Services in the implementation of the program.

The law requires that the board be composed of:

- individuals with severe disabilities (a physical, mental, or sensory impairment that affects one or more major life activity)
- one member of the WVSILC with a disability

***No member of the board may receive personal assistance services through this program.***

NAME:			
ADDRESS:			
CITY:	COUNTY:	STATE:	ZIP:
DAY PHONE:	EVENING PHONE:	FAX:	
E-MAIL:	*BIRTH DATE:	*SEX:	*RACE:

DISABILITY: (Please explain)

*\* This information is voluntary and is requested only to assist the Council in ensuring diversity on this board.*

**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the Ron Yost Personal Assistance Program is to provide funding for individuals with severe disabilities to receive assistance to live in a living arrangement of their choice. Recipients have the right to make decisions regarding the control and provision of their personal assistance services. This includes, but is not limited to, hiring, training, managing, paying, and terminating an assistant's employment.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD:**

- Determine eligibility, need for, and amount of personal assistance services for applicants based on the functional assessments.
- Provide direction to the Division of Rehabilitation Services in the implementation of the program.
- Address Policy and other governing issues.

Cut along line

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Board members will be expected to:

- Attend and participate in all board meetings
- Declare any conflict of interest on decisions to be made by the board
- Refrain from applying for services provided by the program while serving on the board

Board members will be compensated for allowable expenses incurred as a result of active participation on the board.

PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR INTEREST IN SERVING ON THE BOARD AND YOUR EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS. ATTACH ADDITIONAL SHEETS IF NEEDED.

THREE PEOPLE WHO WOULD RECOMMEND ME FOR A POSITION ON THIS BOARD ARE:

NAME:	ADDRESS/ORGANIZATION:	DAYTIME PHONE:

Questions regarding the board or the application process may be directed to:

**Ann McDaniel, Executive Director  
WV Statewide Independent Living Council  
PO Box 625  
Institute, WV 25112-0625**

**Telephone:  
(304) 766-4624 (voice or TDD)  
1-855-855-9743  
Fax: (304) 766-4721**

*I certify that the information I have given in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I understand and agree to meet my responsibilities as a board member should I be selected to serve.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

WVSILC  
P.O. Box 625  
Institute, WV 25112-0625

NONPROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
INSTITUTE, WV  
Permit No. 6

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

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