Legislative Process

Disability Advocacy Day Presentation

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Disability Law Center
The Legislature

Makes and changes state law

Sets the state budget
The Process Starts in June (if not sooner)

- June–Aug.: Departmental hearings & recommendations
- September: Departments send budget requests to Governor
- December: Gov’s budget recommendations
- Jan.–Mar.: General Session (45 days)
- Spring–Fall: Special Sessions: (as needed)
Interim Session: Where the Conversation Starts!

- 3rd Wednesday: regular committees
- 3rd Tuesday: Legislative Management & Executive Appropriations
Learn the Lingo

**Bill**
A proposed law or new program

**Appropriation**
The budget for existing state programs

**Resolution**
Expresses a position or opinion of the legislature
Passing a bill......
** = Advocacy Opportunity

- Find a..... **Sponsor
  - Introduced in... *House or Senate*
  - Sent to.... **Rules Committee
  - Assigns to... *Standing Committee*
Passing a Bill (Cont....)

**Floor 1st Vote**

(P) Fails

**Floor Final Vote**

(P) Fails

**Governor**

Veto

Sign

Standing Committee

Passes (P)

Fails (try again next year)
What about the Money?

Two Kinds

• Ongoing
• One-time

Most Comes From

• State dollars
• Medicaid Match
Getting $$$ (Appropriations)

**Advisory Committee**
- Department
- Governor’s Budget

**Appropriations Committee**
- **Exec Approps (LEADERSHIP)**
- State Budget
Legislative Website

Search le.utah.gov  Find a legislator, bill, or other item

Look for new bills or check on bills you care about

Tips for joining a meeting or testifying in a committee