**Purpose of Public Policy Committee:**

1. To work on advocacy issues as identified in the SPIL or as they arise and are approved by SILC;
2. To research and present information and position statements approved by SILC and on behalf of SILC to the disability community, policy makers, press and general public; and
3. To draft educational advocacy letters to state and federal policy makers for SILC approval.**(By-Laws – Section IX, C, 3)**

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| **SILC (Name) Committee Notes** |
| **Attendees**  | **Jennifer Scilacci, James Joe Triplett, Steve Heidenreich, Matthew Ruggles** | **Date: 3/18/19****Time: 9:00am****Teleconference Call**:877-820-7831871677 # |
| **Absent** | **Adam Tucker** |
| **Guests** |  |
| **Topic: White Paper Topics (held over from last meeting)** |
| **Key Discussion Points:** Employment **– Jennifer (done)**Employment, Deaf/Hard of Hearing - **Matthew**Housing - SteveTransportation - **Joe**Rural – **Steve and Jennifer (done)**Youth – **Adam - Jennifer****Discussion:**We want to research where there are existing policy papers on these topics. When researching, look at other SILCs, look at federal agencies, ILRU, etc. that may have created policy on these topics. We also talked about how high rent is, up to 50% of individual’s income – this is very difficult to manage for all, especially people with disabilities and the elderly on fixed incomesIt would be great for policy to be developed regarding this topic. Does CO have any laws or communities where rent is stable, is not allowed to go up? Rent-controlled . . .See this article on CO and inability to enforce rent caps: <https://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/local-news/rent-control-discussed-among-denver-leaders-but-state-law-wont-let-those-discussions-get-very-far>In communities such as Dallas, there are many people who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, and they also face difficulties with housing. For Deaf people, there is progress moving forward in different communities like Dallas and looking at housing. In Phoenix, there are many deaf senior citizens who are very low income, and the community is working to address this issue, and an apartment specifically for Deaf senior citizens has been developed. Some of the concerns include making too much money to qualify for low income housing, and individuals face the choice of working less to qualify for low income housing and other opportunities.**Action**: Joe will send Jennifer his research so far**Action**: Steve will assist in research on housing |
| **Topic: Legislation - Federal Level And State** |
| **Key Discussion Points:** See attached excel document of current State legislation related to people with disabilities. On a national level, we continue to watch:* S.255 – Disability Employment Incentive Act which focuses on increasing the amounts of tax incentives for people with disabilities to employers
* Disability Integration Act – focused on addressing the concerns of individuals needing long term supports and being forced into institutions
* Transformation to Competitive Employment Act – phases out all sub minimum wage in 6 years
* Raise the Wage Act – also ends sub minimum wage

**Comment:** Discussion surrounding sub-minimum wage, how it is implemented, and agreement all around that it is of benefit to end sub-minimum. **Comment:** Comments around federal and state legislation that exist or are in the works for housing**Action Item**: **Action Item**:  |
| **Topic:**  |
| **Key Discussion Points:** **Action Item**:  |
| **Topic:**  |
| **Key Discussion Points:** **Action Item**: **Action Item:**  |
| **Other Topics: Certification for Interpreters** |
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| **Next Meeting Time: April 15th, 9:00am - Jennifer will be out on annual leave**  |
| 877-820-7831 Participant 871677# |