

PUBLIC COMMENT

The adult system for people with autism is severely (emphasis added) fractured in our State. What steps does the Commission plan to take ahead of the Legislative Session? There are two remaining quarterly meetings in which to discuss this topic, after today, seeing as how it can't be a late addition under OML. I have my flight booked to temporarily move up to Carson for Session, and am exploring lodging accommodations within hopeful walking distance of the Building at this time. Individually or as a small group, I always welcome the opportunity to assist in collaborating with other advocates to bring forward common sense solutions. In the interest of full disclosure, I have Madame Chair to thank, alongside the remaining key LEND faculty members, for further developing my advocacy skills. As the first self-advocate trainee in NV LEND history during the '17-'18 Program Year, our project team examined these fractures. This upcoming Session appears to be my 6th regular, and, unfortunately, will be my last in NV, unless, as a community, we put aside our personal and/or partisan differences and work together. Regular olive branches are provided, primarily by the Feds, but NV simply has had a siloed approach for most of my time near and/or in Building, mostly from the South. By working together, we can create systemic change, but we need to stop acting like elementary school children on a playground, or we will either maintain the status quo, or regress, depending upon the matters at hand.

Staff note: As long as folks identify themselves, as I filter out perceived junk, now that I'm no longer working (this will be my on record expansion), at least for the time being, I've adopted a 4 to 1:30 schedule for advocacy, seeing as how some flows through from D.C. This should not deter folks from reaching out beyond these hours; however, I simply am unable to sacrifice in full my own important to-do list at this time, and may refer more complicated stuff out to partners, such as authorized NPOs (e.g., NV PEP, NDALC, SNCIL, etc.). However, in some cases, urgent matters are on the table, and, for example, it appears as if Minerva from SNCIL is currently booking for July.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you soon. Please do not hesitate to contact me at my below contact info with any questions.

Sincerely,

Steven Cohen
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