



# September 2022 Public Policy and Advocacy Committee

## Minutes

September 12th, 2022

3:00-4:00 p.m. ET

### 1. Opening

Mr. Enrique Escallon opened the meeting. No member presented an issue with being recorded. The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm.

Members Present: Mr. Enrique Escallon, Mr. Brian Nerland, Dr. Betsy Burgos

Staff Present: Ms. Whitney Doyle

Members of the Public: Ms. Kristi Warren

### 2. Approval of Agenda

No members of the public commented. No modifications were made to the agenda. The agenda was approved as presented by acclamation without any objection.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

No members of the public commented. No modifications were made to the minutes. The August 2022 Public Policy and Advocacy Meeting Minutes were approved as presented by acclamation without any objection.

### 4. Update on Strategies for 2023 Legislative Priorities | Whitney Doyle

Ms. Doyle reviewed the legislative priorities document. There are 56 legislators that she would like to meet with to let them know about FAAST. She talked to Rep. Salzman about another appropriations request. Rep. Salzman met with Director Brent McNeal and asked if they could put the \$305,585 in their budget so it can become recurring. At the time, Director McNeal was in favor of that. However, when Ms. Doyle followed up with him, he said he can not put FAAST's increase in the budget after further research.

Dr. Betsy Burgos joined the call.



## 5. Action Items

The Committee is on track with the 2020 strategic plan year 2. Ms. Doyle didn't receive a response from Director McNeal in the FY 23 Legislative priorities. She noted that Director McNeal sent a letter advising against the NHLP Separation. The letter will be discussed with the full ATAC.

## 6. Closing

Next Meeting- TBD No other public comment. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 pm.



## FAAST 2023 Legislative Priorities Strategy Ideas

### State – \$305,585 General Revenue funding request

- Continues FY22 state funding request from \$444,415 to \$750,000
- This funding will be used to expand/increase funding for the assistive technology programs.

### Federal – Assistive Technology Act Reauthorization

- Updates the AT Act.
- Senate:
  - The Senate introduced a reauthorization bill and it was passed out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee in August of 2021 – S. 2401, *The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Assistive Technology Act*.
- House:
  - Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee Chair Mark DeSaulnier (CA-11) and Congressman Joe Sempolinski (NY-23) announced introduction of the [21<sup>st</sup> Century Assistive Technology Act](#) (H.R. 9028)

### Federal – Fully Fund State AT Act Programs

- Requesting the AT Act be funded at \$60 million
- Has been included in House FY2023 Labor, Health, and Human Services Appropriations Bill at \$44 million (same amount in President's budget)

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## Monthly Actions

### June 2022

- FY2023 Legislative Priorities sent to VR and ATAC – COMPLETED



## July 2022

- Draft Meeting Talking Points – COMPLETED

## August 2022

- Continue working with Rep. Salzman to make FY23 request recurring dollars
  - Dollars will be to be requested through appropriations. If Salzman is reelected, she will run this bill for us in the House.
- Florida Primaries August 23, 2022

## September 2022

- Create list of legislators who ran unopposed – COMPLETED
- Schedule first set of meetings with Legislators for FY23 Priorities – COMPLETED

## October 2022

- Work on follow ups from September meetings – COMPLETED

## November 2022

- Continue meetings with legislators – COMPLETED

## December 2022

- Create list of all legislators – IN PROGRESS
- Continue meetings with legislators – IN PROGRESS
- Committee Week 1: December 12-16, 2022

## January 2023

- Committee Week 2: January 3-6, 2023
- Committee Week 3: January 17-20, 2023
- Committee Week 4: January 23-27, 2023

## February 2023

- Committee Week 5: February 6-10, 2023
- Committee Week 6: February 13-17, 2023
- Committee Week 7: February 20-24, 2023



## March 2023

- Regular session begins March 7, 2023

## April 2023

## May 2023

- Last day of regular session May 5, 2023

## June 2023

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## Meetings Held (15):

- Senator Jim Boyd
- Senator Debbie Mayfield
- Senator Rosalind Osgood
- Senator Kathleen Passidomo
- Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez
- Representative Melony Bell
- Representative Daryl Campbell
- Representative Christine Hunschofsky
- Representative Lauren Melo
- Representative Stan McClain
- Representative Will Robinson
- Representative Bob Rommel
- Representative Jason Shoaf
- Representative Tyler Sirois
- Representative Josie Tomkow

## Meeting Scheduled (1):

- Representative T. Patterson Maney



## Meetings Needed (40):

### House (31)

- Representative Wyman Duggan
- Shane Abbott
- Phillip Griffitts
- Allison Tant – Requested meeting
- Chuck Brannan – Requested meeting
- Cyndi Stevenson – Requested meeting
- Bobby Payne – Requested meeting
- Ralph Massullo Jr – Requested meeting
- Joe Harding – Requested meeting
- Thad Altman – Requested meeting
- Jennifer Harris
- Sam Killebrew – Requested meeting
- Jennifer Canady
- Brad Yeager
- Adam Anderson
- Dianne Hart – Requested meeting
- James Buchanan – Requested meeting
- Michael Grant – Requested meeting
- Spencer Roach – Requested meeting
- Mike Giallombardo – Requested meeting
- Kaylee Tuck – Requested meeting
- Lisa Dunkley
- Patricia Hawkins-Williams – Requested meeting
- Michael Gottlieb – Requested meeting
- Felicia Simone Robinson – Requested meeting
- Dotie Joseph – Requested meeting
- Ashley Gantt
- Tom Fabricio – Requested meeting



- Alex Rizo – Requested meeting
- Daniel Anthony Perez – Requested meeting
- Kevin Chambliss – Requested meeting

#### Senate (9)

- Jennifer Bradley – Requested meeting
- Geraldine Thompson
- Joe Gruters – Requested meeting
- Erin Grall
- Gayle Harrell – Requested meeting
- Shevrin Jones – Requested meeting
- Lauren Book – Requested meeting
- Jason Pizzo – Requested meeting
- Bryan Avila



# Public Policy and Advocacy Committee

Strategic Plan 2020 – Goal Tracking Year 3

Strategic Issue 2, Objective 6 - By September 30, 2021, September 30, 2022, and September 30, 2023, create annual legislative priorities to implement within the strategic plan.

Strategy 6-1: Legislative priorities drafted and approved by PPAC

- Due: By June 2023, FY 2024 Legislative Priorities will be approved by ATAC.
- Staff Assigned: Whitney Doyle

Actions:

- Determine appropriate legislative priorities for FY24.
- Send priorities to be reviewed by VR/DOE.
- Create plan to bring awareness to priorities.