

Executive Order 2007-15

**Re-establishing the Statewide Independent Living Council
(Amending and Superseding Executive Order 98-10)**

WHEREAS, federal law requires each state to establish a Statewide Independent Living Council pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 796d(a) in order to be eligible to receive financial assistance under the Federal Rehabilitation Act; and

WHEREAS, establishing such a council will help promote equal access to independent living services for all Arizona citizens with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, such a council can help assess the need for, and quality of, independent living programs and services in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, such a council can also help facilitate systemic changes to promote dignity, inclusion, and non-discrimination for all people with disabilities in Arizona;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Janet Napolitano, Governor of the State of Arizona, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of this State, hereby confirm the establishment of the Statewide Independent Living Council (Council) and further delineate its responsibilities and organization as follows:

1. The Governor shall appoint the members of the Council, who shall serve staggered three-year terms.
2. The membership of the Council shall be comprised of no fewer than fifteen and no more than twenty-one members and shall include:
 - At least one director of a center of independent living recommended by the directors of centers for independent living within the State of Arizona;
 - Parents and guardians of individuals with disabilities;
 - Advocates of and for individuals with disabilities;
 - Representatives of private businesses; and
 - Representatives from organizations that provide services for individuals with disabilities.
3. In addition, there shall be no more than four non-voting ex-officio members, including a representative from the Arizona Department of Economic Security, Rehabilitation Services Administration and representatives from other state agencies that provide services for individuals with disabilities.

4. To the extent practicable, the Council shall be comprised of members who:
 - a. Provide statewide representation;
 - b. Represent a broad range of individuals with disabilities; and
 - c. Who are knowledgeable about centers for independent living and independent living services; and
5. To the extent practicable, voting members of the Council shall include persons with a disability described as in section 705 (20)(B) of the Rehabilitation Act and who are not employed by any state agency or center for independent living.
6. No member of the Council may serve more than two consecutive full terms.
7. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which a predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of the term.
8. The Governor may remove any member for cause.
9. The Council, among other things, shall:
 - Jointly develop and sign, along with other designated state agencies, the state plan required in section 796c of the Federal Rehabilitation Act;
 - Monitor, review and evaluate the implementation of the state plan;
 - Coordinate activities with the state rehabilitation council;
 - Conduct hearings and forums as determined necessary to carry out the duties of the Council;
 - Consistent with state law, supervise and evaluate staff and personnel as may be necessary; and
 - As requested by the Regional Commissioner for Rehabilitation Services, submit reports and keep such records as the Regional Commissioner deems necessary.
10. Members of the Governor's Council may, with the Governor's permission, send designees to serve on the Council; provided, however, that such designees shall have been delegated by the member with full authority to vote and otherwise act on behalf of the member.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona.

J. R. McEwen
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on the *18th* day of July in the Year Two Thousand and Seven and of the Independence of the United States of America in the Two Hundred Thirty-second.

ATTEST:

Janice K. Brewer
SECRETARY OF STATE