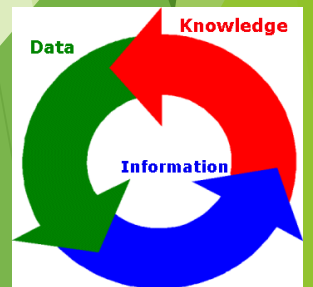


# DDA Clients Rights

HB 1651

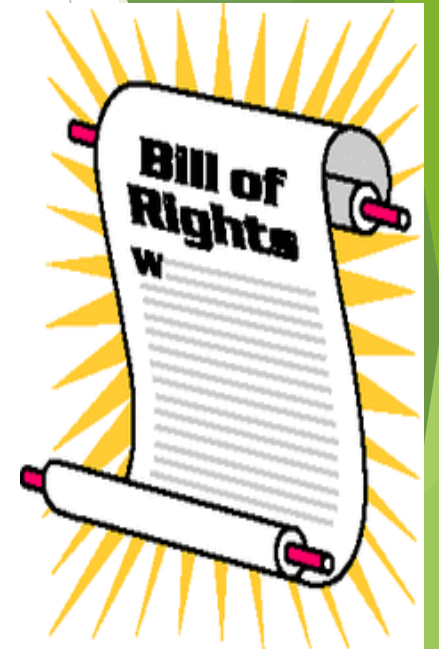
# Secure rights of people who use DDA services

- ▶ **Problem:** The highest number of complaints handled by the DD Ombuds (32) concerned autonomy and exercise of rights. Current law sets out rights for people with developmental disabilities.
- ▶ However, many people with developmental disabilities, service providers, and family members do not know all of these rights or where to find them in the law.
- ▶ Currently, there is no one section of Washington law that spells out the rights of those who utilize DDA services. Further, people who use DDA services may have different rights depending on where they live and receive services. This is confusing, difficult to navigate, and creates barriers to problem solving. Also, people do not currently receive information about enforcement actions taken against their providers.



# Secure rights of people who use DDA services

- ▶ **Solution:** Create a statute that spells out the rights of people who use DDA services so that everyone can easily find them. Equalize rights between residential settings so everyone that uses DDA services has the same rights and protections no matter where they live.



# HB 1651

- ▶ **Proposal:** Spell out the rights of people who use DDA services in statute as proposed in [HB 1651](#). These bills gather rights which are currently scattered throughout the Revised Code of Washington (RCW) and Washington Administrative Code (WAC) into one place in the RCWs. They establish certain rights for clients of the Department of Social and Health
- ▶ Services Developmental Disability Administration. They specify the right to personal power and choice, participate in service planning, access service and healthcare information, file complaints and grievances, privacy, confidentiality, access to advocates, and certain rights upon termination of services.

- ▶ Establishes certain rights of individuals eligible for Developmental Disability Administration, services including the right to:
  - ▶ Be free from abuse, corporal punishment, and involuntary seclusion;
  - ▶ Be free from discrimination;
  - ▶ Have visitors at their home and associate with friends;
  - ▶ Control the their schedule;
  - ▶ Understand the treatment ordered;
  - ▶ Be free from unnecessary medication, restraints, and restrictions;
  - ▶ Vote and help people get elected;
  - ▶ Manage their money;
  - ▶ Make life choices;
  - ▶ Choose clothes and hairstyle;
  - ▶ Furnish their bedroom and home;
  - ▶ Work and receive payment for work;
  - ▶ Receive services that are agreed to; and
  - ▶ Decide whether to participate in research.



- ▶ Requires that the DDA notify an individual, and his or her representative, of the rights of individuals eligible to receive services from the DDA in writing, and receipt of the information must be acknowledged in writing
- ▶ Requires that DDA share rules to inform clients and providers of the client rights and to provide oversight and enforcement of those rights.

- ▶ Further spells out rights for:
  - ▶ Clients regarding the DDA's service planning;
  - ▶ Access to information about services and health care;
  - ▶ File complaints, grievances, and request appeals;
  - ▶ Privacy and confidentiality;
  - ▶ Discharge, transfer, and termination of services; and
  - ▶ Access to advocates.

