



## Secure rights of people who use DDA services

**Problem:** 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.

**Solution:** Create a statute that spells out the rights of people who use DDA services so 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.

**Proposal:** Spell out the rights of people who use DDA services in statute as proposed in [HB 1651](#) and [SB 5843](#). 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 participate in service planning, access service and healthcare information, file complaints and grievances, privacy, confidentiality, access to advocates, and rights upon termination of services.

