



United Way of  
Southeast Louisiana

APPROVED by UWSELA Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, February 26, 2014

## Public Policy Committee 2014 Legislative Advocacy Agenda Recommendations

The Public Policy Committee met February 19, 2014 and approved the following recommendations for the UWSELA 2014 Legislative Advocacy Agenda.

### Mass Incarceration/Criminal Justice Reform

**STUDY** all legislation in its entirety and recommend what we will take position on at a later date.

### Medicaid Maximization

**SUPPORT** quality responsible legislation to provide affordable health care coverage to as many underinsured or uninsured as possible.  
**SUPPORT** United Way to include a campaign to get factual information on ACA to the at risk population regarding access to health care.

### Early Childhood Education - Whole Child Health – Preschool for All

**SUPPORT** legislation in favor of Early Childhood Education and Whole Child Health. We are advocating for increased funding for the implementation of Act 3 to ensure we provide greater access to quality programming for at risk children 0-3. UWSELA has been working with DHH to secure the funding necessary to implement a statewide 5-site pilot for the Whole Child Health Initiative.

### Improving HS Graduation Rates – Career Readiness – Workforce Training and Revamping Louisiana High School Diploma

**OPPOSE** any legislation that attempts to abolish Common Core.  
**SUPPORT** the Governor's plan for increased funding K-12 and Higher Education.

### Financial Security – Eliminating Poverty

**SUPPORT** legislation for Pay Day Lending - capping interest rates at 36%. This legislation is being sponsored by Rep. Ted James.

### Domestic Violence

**SUPPORT** legislation for Domestic Violence that will increase support for victims and their families. At the Public Policy Committee request and that of our DV Collaborative Partners, Rep. Helena Morena has prepared several pieces of legislation that will be pre-filed by February 28th. Sen. J.P. Morrell will also be introducing companion legislation in the Senate as well.

### Other Issues

#### Equal Pay for Women

**SUPPORT** legislation for equal pay for equal work.

#### Minimum Wage Increase

**SUPPORT** a state minimum wage of \$9.00.

The Deadline for the pre-filing of any/all legislation is February 28, 2014. Currently 198 Bills have been filed in the House and 75 Bills have been filed in the Senate. All Bill information can be viewed at the following link: <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/BillSearch.aspx?sid=last>

The Louisiana State Legislature convenes at noon on Monday, March 10, 2014 and  
the Final Adjournment is no later than 6:00 pm on Monday, June 2, 2014.