



## INFORMATIONAL HEARING

### Select Committee on Opportunities and Barriers for People with Disabilities in the Workplace

Assemblymember Liz Ortega, Chair

1021 O St., Sacramento, CA 95816

December 5, 2023 | 1:30 PM | RM 1100

## AGENDA

- I. 1:30-1:40 PM: Opening remarks by Chairwoman Liz Ortega and Committee Members**
- II. 1:40-2:05 PM: Introduction and Overview: Accessibility for People with Disabilities in the Workplace**
  - i. Dr. Olivia Raynor**, Ph.D. | Academic Researcher
  - ii. Paula Tobler** | Attorney, Disability Rights California
  - iii. John Bolle** | Executive Director, VistAbility
  - iv. Aaron Carruthers** | Executive Director, State Council on Developmental Disabilities
  - v. Questions from committee members**
- III. 2:05-2:30 PM: Overview of Workers with Disabilities' Perspective:**
  - i. Silas Wagner** | Counselor, California School for the Deaf
  - ii. Bobby Dutta** | President, Association of California State Employees with Disabilities
  - iii. Noah Lebowitz** | Attorney, California Employment Lawyers Association
  - iv. Questions from committee members**

**IV. 2:30-2:55 PM Overview of Employers' Perspective:**

- i. **Ashley Hoffman** | Policy Advocate, California Chamber of Commerce
- ii. **Heather Sweeney** | Manager of Workplace Accommodations, Health Net
- iii. **Laurie Rodriguez** | Director of People Services and Strategies, Sacramento Municipal Utilities District (SMUD)
- iv. **Questions from committee members**

**I. 2:55-3:20 PM: Solutions to Increase and Maintain Accessibility for People with Disabilities in the Workplace:**

- i. **Joe Xavier** | Director, Department of Rehabilitation
- ii. **Brian Winfield** | Chief Deputy Director, Department of Developmental Services
- iii. **Eric Steward** | Director of Work Skills, Meristem
- iv. **Harrison Lane** | Transformative Autism Program Coordinator, Meristem
- v. **Questions from committee members**

**II. 3:20-3:50 PM: Discussion among committee members**

**III. 3:50-4:30 PM: Public Comment**

- i. Via teleconferencing and in-person