

## **APD > Media Advisory**

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### **Information on Legislative Budget Exercise**

For the past several years as state law allows, the Florida Legislature has required each state agency to participate in a budget cutting exercise. Each spring during legislative committee weeks, agency heads are required to present possible cuts to their agency's budget.

On February 17, Agency for Persons with Disabilities Director Jim DeBeaugrine was required to present a 15 percent budget cutting exercise to a Senate committee. DeBeaugrine stated that he did not recommend any of the reductions to the agency's budget. He was quoted in the media in a column by Jim Saunders with Health News Florida: "Nevertheless, Jim DeBeaugrine, director of the state Agency for Persons with Disabilities, made clear Wednesday that he didn't want to have to carry out the cuts he proposed to the Senate committee. After a lawmaker asked about the effects of one proposed cut dealing with programs that developmentally disabled people attend during the day," DeBeaugrine replied, "In all honesty, it would be very drastic."

APD supports Governor Crist's budget recommendations which provide for a slight increase in the agency's budget

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